



INSIDE

About twenty men, women and children are on a march from Philadelphia to The United Nations headquarters in New York City contending the recent welfare reform laws violate the UN Human Rights Charter.

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While a majority of the nation's men are taking time to visit their health professionals for annual check-ups, many are waiting until the last minute.

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After three years on hiatus from recording, legendary songbird Patti LaBelle returns with a new album.

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Tyson's in worse shape than Holyfield's left ear

By Ed Schuyler Jr.
AP Boxing Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Evander Holyfield's right ear is in stitches, and Mike Tyson's boxing career is in tatters.

From Mike went far beyond the bounds of even his violent sport and was disqualified after three rounds for biting Holyfield on both ears Saturday night, throwing his career into jeopardy.

"We don't know what's in store for Mike Tyson," said Jay Larkin, the main "behind boxing" for Showtime-SET, which still has a 1 1/2-year contract with Tyson. "We're waiting for a lot of answers."

While having his ears repaired at a hospital, Holyfield answered one question: Since he has beaten Tyson twice, he said, there's no reason to fight him again.

"At this point in time we do not believe Mike Tyson deserves to be in the ring with somebody like Evander Holyfield," said Holyfield's attorney, Jim Thomas. Thomas said Holyfield had not yet decided whether to use Tyson for the bites, one of which took a one-inch chunk out of the right ear.

"Both of us feel for the good of this sport, which Evander has put a lot into over the years, there needs to be some consequences," Thomas said.

Thomas said his course of action would be influenced by the Nevada State Athletic Commission, which held up Tyson's \$30 million purse pending an investigation. The commission will meet Tuesday to set a date for a hearing on whether to fine Tyson, suspend him or both.

Li Dennis Cobb of the Las Vegas Police Department indicated there would be no charges filed against Tyson for taking a swing at an officer during the post-fight melee in the ring. Tyson's spokespeople said Tyson didn't hit the officer.

The damage to Tyson's career is immeasurable, but he can still make good money fighting. Michael Moore, the IBF champion, has a contract with Showtime to fight Tyson, whether Tyson won or lost Saturday night.

What is particularly disgusting to Tyson is the way he learned how that loss is perceived by the public.

Although Tyson said Saturday that his biting was in retaliation for Holyfield hitting low and butting, which opened a cut over his right eye, many people agreed with Holyfield that Tyson wanted a disqualification because he knew he couldn't win.

Thomas said Holyfield was angry, "not only because of the pain, but because it was disrespectful to the sport he is in. He's disappointed because he was going to 'knock Tyson out.'"

KIDS ON DEATH ROW?

Assembly bill would lower execution age to 16

By Daryle Lamont Jenkins

TRENTON-In the spotlight already given capital punishment by the Timothy McVeigh and Jesse Timmendequas trials comes a new State Assembly bill adds more fuel to an already raging debate.

Assemblyman Guy Talarrico sponsored a bill that would lower the mini-

mum age at which a killer could be put to death from 18 to 16. The bill will also put 14 year-olds convicted of murder in jail for 30 years before parole eligibility.

Last week, Assembly Republicans agreed to withdraw the bill from a floor vote after a surprise late-hour outcry from community ministers and activists from around the state.

Ciro Scuderi, director of the Association for Children of New Jersey says Bill A-2925 itself was a surprise.

"Because of the Juvenile Justice Reform Bill Governor Christie Todd Whitman signed last year, many of these 'too tough' bills were not moving out of committee," he said.

Virtually ignored by the public, the bill passed com-

mittee serving however, and was introduced May 5. It moved through the legislature so quickly that opponents did not begin to voice their opposition until the few days before the vote was to take place.

The bill was written after the April murders of two pizza delivery men in Sussex County by two juveniles, Jayson Vreeland, 17

and Thomas Koskovich, 18. Earlier this month a Sussex County judge ruled Vreeland could be tried as an adult. This bill however, should it become law, will not affect the outcome of their cases.

Strong opposition was heard, both in the chamber and on the street. Assemblyman Craig

see EXECUTION/page B6

Farewell Sister Betty



By Beth Gardner
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—With echoing drums and strong voices, with tears, cheers and prayer, more than 2,000 of Betty Shabazz's friends, relatives and admirers paid a buoyant and affectionate tribute to her Sunday.

A parade of public officials and figures in the civil rights movement took the lectern at Harlem's Riverside Church to remember the warmth, love and quiet strength of Malcolm X's widow.

Mrs. Shabazz died on June 23, three weeks after suffering severe burns in a fire allegedly set by her grandson, Malcolm X's 12-year-old namesake. She was buried next to her husband in a cemetery north of New York City on Friday.

"Yesterday was Harlem's day of lamentation. Great was our grief and great our cause for grieving," said actor Ossie Davis, who also eulogized Malcolm X following his assassination 32 years ago. "Today Betty has passed over, and so have we, from lamentation into celebration. Our hearts sing, 'Hallelujah.'"

Rhythmic drumming filled the enormous cathedral and haunting voices echoed off its walls as musicians in white cloth robes opened the memorial service with a slow march toward the front of the inter-denominational church.

Speakers including civil rights widows Myrtle Evers-Williams and Coretta Scott King, poet Maya Angelou, Gov. George Pataki, Rep. Maxine Waters, Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, and former mayors David Dinkins, Edward Koch and Abe Beame, spoke fondly of Mrs. Shabazz.

Labor Secretary Alexis Herman delivered a tribute from President Clinton.

But amid all the high-powered speechmaking, the most powerful tribute was deeply personal. Attallah Shabazz, the eldest of Malcolm X and Mrs. Shabazz's six daughters, alternated between laughter and tears as she recalled the flirtatious, loving woman her father called "Apple Brown Betty."

"Where does one struggle to find language or vocabulary to be poetic or eloquent when it's something as pure and simple as 'Mommy'?" she asked in a voice raw with emotion.

Crammed into the tiny pulpit with her five sisters, Attallah Shabazz recalled her mother's agonizing battle to survive after suffering third-degree burns over 80 percent of her body.

"We kept asking ourselves, 'What gives her the strength to fight so hard?' We whispered in her ear, 'We're here, you're not by yourself, the prayers are big ... You don't have to fight so hard, Mom. We're doing it.'"

Mrs. King and Mrs. Evers-Williams stood on the pulpit together and hugged emotionally as they recalled shared confidences and troubles with Mrs. Shabazz.

"I think about the three of us, who were joined together ... by our husbands being killed, and then coming together as three sisters," Mrs. Evers-Williams said. "There you are, my sister, you are soaring into something else."

Suffrage statue lacks Truth

By Daryle Lamont Jenkins

WASHINGTON, DC—A 75-year-old statue depicting three prominent figures of the women's suffrage movement was rededicated June 26 in the Capitol's Rotunda, while outside about 100 protesters raised a ongoing controversy about the lack of recognition given persons of color in that movement.

The Women's Suffrage Statue is an 8-ton marble rendition of suffragists Lucretia Coffin Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Susan B. Anthony. Behind the likenesses is a large chunk of marble that many suggest could be carved into a likeness of fellow suffragist Sojourner Truth. Critics contend that the omission of her and other persons of color is a biased slight of hand and misrepresentative of the actual struggle.

The statue has been in the Capitol City for many decades, and in 1955 a resolution was introduced to place it in the Rotunda where other statues and busts of prominent Americans in history can be seen. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is the only African-American with a place in the Rotunda, and there are no other women.

Dr. C. Dolores Tucker, chair of the National Political Congress of Black Women, has voiced their disapproval in this decision and brought supporters outside the Capitol as rededication ceremony inside took place. "It's a historical fraud because Sojourner Truth was a leading spokeswoman, the leading spirit of the suffragist movement," Dr. Tucker said. ("Museum of Women's History President) Karen Staser, who stands in that Rotunda



Left: C. Dolores Tucker, chair of the National Political Congress of Black Women, stands with children as she addresses crowd outside Capitol Building in Washington. Right: The Women's Suffrage Statue which is the subject of controversy.

today said in her letter to us that all would agree that Sojourner Truth belongs on the statue."

"Betty Shabazz would be with us today, if she could," Dr. Tucker concluded. "She is with us today, and so is Sojourner Truth." "It would be imperial and unjust for us to exclude prominent whites from recognition in our civil rights memorial, such as Rabbi Abraham Heschle, Schwerner and Goodman, David Clark, and any other white leader who participated in and fought for civil and human rights," said Jonathan Highwater, President of Howard University's Student Association. "We must challenge the Women's Suffragist Committee to do right by our sister and put her in her proper place."

During the ceremony, there was an effort to recognize the issue Dr.

Justice and the other protesters were addressing. It was noted that the three women depicted here ardent abolitionists.

Representative Carolyn Maloney noted the particular chunk of marble behind the figures saying that when the artist Adelaide Johnson finished the sculpture in 1921, it was intentional to have it there symbolic of the "mountain of hope" and "unfinished work" in the women's movement. There was also a monologue done by Fred Morsell, an actor depicting Frederick Douglass that received a standing ovation.

In a statement from the National Museum of Women's History, defenders of the statue recognized the accomplishments of Truth and other women such as Lucy Stone, Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, and

men like Frederick Douglass.

"As historians who regret that the three women depicted here ardent abolitionists, the release said. "We also recognize and deplore the racism that existed in the suffrage movement as well as other movements in the country for civil rights and social justice."

"We cannot, however, re-write history. What is still important about these women and what the monument commemorates was the establishment of the constitutional principle that would make equal suffrage possible in the future in the US."

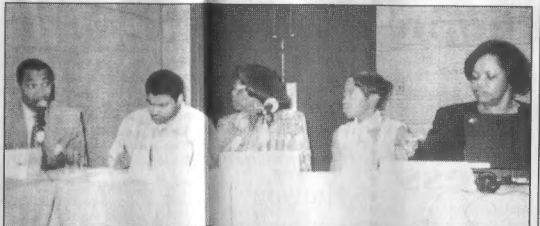
The statement also applauded Rep. Alice Hastings for introducing legislation to commission a statue of Truth for the Capitol, a move Dr. Tucker and her supporters have already opposed, regarding it as being an example of the "separate but

Forum addresses media portrayal of young fathers

By Soya Kimble-Elli

"The question at hand hasn't been answered," said Newark Councilwoman Mildred Crump. "And that is, why Newark? As we are all well aware, the problem of irresponsible fathers is a nationwide problem. It's not a racial problem. It's not just a socio-economic problem. We have irresponsible fathers all over the state."

Councilwoman Crump was referring to the Dateline program "The Good, The Bad ... The Reality" which focused on young black fathers in the city of Newark. As part of Fathers Appreciation Week, the Newark-based Young see FORUM/page B6



Members of the panel included (L to R) Len Cannon, on-air talent for NBC's Dateline; a young father; Newark Councilwoman Mildred Crump; Sayda Burr, a young mother; and Dr. Evelyn Pummer of Seton Hall University who served as moderator.

Dexter King says LBJ knew of plot

ATLANTA (AP)—A son of Martin Luther King Jr. said he believes that his father's assassination was part of a government conspiracy that the late President Lyndon B. Johnson must have known about.

"Based on the evidence that I've been shown, I would think that it would be very difficult for something of that magnitude to occur on his watch and he not be privy to it," Dexter King said June 26 on ABC's "Turning Point."

The program explored conspiracy theories about King's assassination and also explored a surprising twist to one theory promoted by the lawyer for James Earl Ray, who pleaded guilty a year after the April 1968 slaying. Ray's lawyer, William Pepper, has claimed that former Army Maj. Billy Dixon was part of a plot to kill King and Edson was murdered during a cover-up. To Pepper's surprise, ABC brought out Edson and introduced

him to Pepper.

"I don't want to shake your hand. I just want to look at you," Edson told Pepper. He then asked Pepper to retract statements in a 1995 book that implicated Edson in the King slaying.

Pepper apologized for reporting that Edson was dead, but said his story wasn't changed.

"I only am looking at it, but one of my sources is so vivid ... that he wants to come into court and testify," Pepper said.

Ray was sentenced to 99 years in prison after he pleaded guilty. He retracted his admission days later, and has been trying to win a trial ever since.

The King family has supported a trial for Ray, saying they believe he is innocent and King's death was probably the result of a government conspiracy.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY, JULY 3

JERSEY CITY—The Jersey City State College Women's Center will be holding a series of free programs on topics ranging from college finances to women's self-esteem in July. For more information call 201-200-3168.

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield area chapter of the Red Cross blood drive open to the public at Rose of Sharon Church. For more information call 908-756-6414.

SATURDAY, JULY 5

OCEAN GROVE—The Historical Society of Ocean Grove's Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever" 100th Anniversary Celebration. For more information call 732-988-0645.

MONDAY, JULY 7

COLTS NECK—"Roller Hockey Camps" at the Dorbrook Recreation Area. For more information, call 908-842-4000.

CRANFORD—Registration is ongoing for Summer Session credit courses at Union County College. For more information, call the College's Admissions office at 908-708-7500.

TUESDAY, JULY 8

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield area chapter of the Red Cross blood drive open to the public at the South Plainfield Elks. For more information call 908-756-6414.

ELIZABETH—The Elizabeth Public Library "Go Buggy with Books" summer reading club. For more information call 908-354-6060.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

UNION—Valerie Vaughn, troubadour extraordinaire, will present "Songs For Our Environment" at Trailside Nature & Science Center. For more information call 908-789-3070.

UNION—Comcast Cablevision of NJ will sponsor a free concert featuring The Mahoney Brothers doing all The Juke Box Hits you remember from the 1950's and 60's. For more information call 908-527-4900.

ELIZABETH—The Elizabeth Public Library hosts an indoor gardening shown by staff from Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County. For more information call 908-354-6060.

SATURDAY, JULY 12

EAST ORANGE—The 8th Annual East Orange Kids' Fest "See & Say Africa" for children pre-kindergarten to grade 5. Pre-registration is required. For more information call 201-266-5147.

MONDAY, JULY 14

COLTS NECK—"Roller Hockey Camps" at the Dorbrook Recreation Area. For more information, call 908-842-4000.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Area Chapter of the Red Cross sponsors an open blood drive at Our Lady of Cessatochows Church. For more information call 908-756-6414.

PISCATAWAY—"Lead Training Courses" EOHHS, Centers for Education and Training. For more information call 732-935-5062.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16

NEWARK—Air Services Development Office is pleased to present its First Round Table Workshop. For more information, call 201-961-4278.

ELIZABETH—The Elizabeth Public Library host a lecture on the state of Medicare. For more information call 908-354-6060.

FRIDAY, JULY 18

NEWARK—The second annual "Just One" neighborhood presents Newark Games '97. All events are free and will continue up to August 2. For pre-registration information call, 973-733-4498.

SATURDAY, JULY 19

EDISON—JFK Advantage Sponsors Day Trip to Longwood Gardens. For more information, call 1-800-222-3116.

SUNDAY, JULY 20

WARREN—The Plainfield Area Chapter of the Red Cross open blood drive at Our Lady of the Mount Church. For more information call 908-756-6414.

MONDAY, JULY 21

COLTS NECK—"Roller Hockey Camps" at the Dorbrook Recreation Area. For more information, call 908-842-4000.

THURSDAY, JULY 24

NEWARK—Newark Games '97 at the Essex Plaza presents Senior Games with games and entertainment. For more information call 201-643-8588.

JCSC Nursing Students receive Nightingale award



Jersey City State College nursing students Elizabeth Ismail (left) of West Orange, Marcia White (center right) of Newark, and Evelyn Kashay (right) of Jersey City received Nightingale Awards at a recent campus reception and pinning ceremony. The award recipients were congratulated by Dr. Ellen Gardner of Livingston, chair of the JCSC Department of Nursing.

Union County honors UCC women's basketball team



From left: Jennifer Martel of Winfield Park; Sharon Kukal of Linden; Freshholder Chairman Stander; Coach Donna Herran, a Roselle resident; Crystal Cosby, a resident of Plainfield. Union County Freshholder Chairman Linda Stander was given a sweatshirt by members and the coach of the Union County College women's basketball team, who show resolutions presented by the Board of Chosen Freshholders, honoring the team for their many accomplishments this past season.

Weekly Horoscope

ARIES: (March 21-April 20)

Pay attention to your home life during the week. Certain family members need your input. Take the time to express your support and positive feelings - it will do wonders. Stay on an even keel where food and drink are concerned and exercise more.

TAURUS: (April 21 - May 21)

Time spent alone this week will be time well spent. There is an inner strength that you need to rediscover in order to be the best that you can possibly be. Learn to acceptance that which you will never be able to change, it will save you lots of energy.

GEMINI: (May 22 - June 21)

It will be easy to find fault with yourself if you rush into a situation with more energy than information. Others around you may seem like a threat, but generosity and helpfulness will maneuver you through any rough spots. It's time to overcome your fear of insecurity.

CANCER: (June 22 - July 23)

Good news about money will arrive this week, and just in time. Make the most of this financial situation, trying to invest as much as possible. A mate or child is in an argumentative mood, and seems to enjoy the conflict - cooperate when there is an open line of communication.

LEO: (July 24 - August 23)

You have a great deal to think about during the week, and may want to take time out to do so. Don't ignore what may seem like pesky symptoms, your body may be trying to tell you something. It's time to start following that dream you've had for some time now.

VIRGO: (August 24 - September 23)

You have lots of love to give to those outside your personal relationships - try to spend time with others who have no one. There may be a treasure waiting for you in a place that you least expect. Hard work will bring much satisfaction, and will benefit by helping others.

LIBRA: (September 24 - October 23)

Relationship issues are at the top of your list this week, and it is all good news. Whatever obstacles have kept you from any commitment or marriage have now been overcome, and love is in the air. Looking at the past may bring about some bitter-sweet memories.

SCORPIO: (October 24 - November 22)

Learning something new during the week will instill a joy and confidence that you should share with friends and loved ones. This may be a great time to plan a vacation which is long overdue. You seem to be approaching some type of success, beware of difficulties involved.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 23 - December 21)

If you are in a rut, do something about it and stop winning! Any solutions to this problem will probably not be solved quickly, but you can move onto something else until the solution becomes apparent. True words of love will make the difference.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 - January 20)

Moderation is the keyword for this week. Moderation will be a helpful guideline as the temptation to engage in extremes is present. Don't spread your plans and ideas all over the place, you are better off keeping them to yourself for the time being. Self-indulge.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 - February 19)

You may need to make some financial sacrifices this week in order to pay off some health bills. If you work at it, these can be paid off with little delay. This whole situation may bring back memories of not having enough to get by - remember, they are memories.

PISCES: (February 20 - March 20)

If you are not giving from your heart, it is probably best to not bother. You may have to compromise when it comes to employment. Remember that prosperity is where you find it. Always keep your eye open for that perfect position, work towards your highest potential.

IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: This should be a lively time for you in terms of business, career and moneymaking activities. Your income and earnings will increase slightly with potential for a much greater profit. Friction may arise within a romantic relationship.

- Black Church Arsons
- Attack on Affirmative Action
- Rise in Hate Groups

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Newark youth win secretaries' Scholarship

NEWARK—Fuquan Jackson, a senior at Malcolm X Shabbazz High School in Newark, has been chosen the winner of a \$500 education scholarship from the Prudential Corporate Chapter of Professional Secretaries International (PSI). The scholarship was awarded to Jackson by Teri Ackley, president of PSI on June 12, at the second annual PSI Award Luncheon, held at Prudential's headquarters in Newark. Marty Berkowitz, a senior vice president and comptroller for Prudential, delivered the keynote speech.

Jackson's winning essay on "A Teacher Who Influenced My Life," was a heartfelt tribute to his English developmental teacher and Upward Bound counselor, Ms. Veronica Jackson. As Jackson wrote in his essay, "Because of her, I want to do so many things and reach so many goals. She excited something inside of me that evoked dignity and self



Family members applaud Fuquan Jackson after receiving a \$500 education scholarship.

confidence that I can be successful in endeavors, in spite of my environment, social and economic background."

An addition to the essay, applicants had to submit a letter of recommendation from a teacher, guidance counselor or clergyperson, as well as a copy of their high school transcript.

The contest was open to graduating seniors related to Prudential employees who work in Newark. Jackson's cousin, Cassandra McCoy, is a planner and reviewer in

Prudential's Individual Insurance Group.

Jackson will be attending Drew University in the fall, where he plans to study pre-medicine. He is currently a member of his school's Peer Leadership Program, Conflict Resolution Program, Fashion Club, Billalain Student Union and Student Council. He has also participated in the Stevens Institute of Technology Science and Engineering Program, studying the Japanese language and its culture in addition to science and mathematics. Through The Korea

Society's Intercultural Outreach Program-Kids-o-Korea, Jackson also spent 10 days in the Republic of Korea, where he organized community service activities. He is also an active member of the Paradise Baptist Church.

Jackson's goals include being proficient in Sign Language, Korean, Japanese and Spanish, becoming an anesthesiologist, and opening a medical practice in Newark for those who are economically disadvantaged.

Hudson labor council breakfast a success

The Essex-West Hudson Labor Council recently celebrated its tenth annual breakfast at the Mayfair Farms in West Orange. Shown (L-R): Thomas H. Kenney, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Essex West Hudson Labor Council; 1997 Breakfast Co-chairs, Patrick J. McBride, of Laborers Local 112 and Clarence W. Jackson, of the American Postal Workers; Thomas P. Giblin, President Essex West Hudson Labor Council.



NATIONAL BRIEFS

Cong. Lewis opposes

Republican tax proposal
U.S. Congressman John Lewis (D-GA) has expressed strong opposition to the Republican tax proposal unveiled by Bill Archer (R-TX) chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. "This proposal is not progressive, not fair and not acceptable," he said. "The Republicans have crafted a tax proposal that is a trip to the candy store for Republicans and their rich friends," he added. The Congress informed that the Bill offers no true tax relief for hardworking American families. While the wealthy will get a capital gains tax cut and relief for their assets, the working poor's only benefit will be the tax base for education and children—tax relief instituted on by Democrats, he said. Lewis further pointed out that President Clinton's proposal would have guaranteed there would be \$33 billion in tax incentives for education and money for expanding empowerment zones. However, Lewis insisted, the Republicans broke their deal with President Clinton and the American people. "Republicans had the opportunity to craft a fair tax bill that benefits all Americans. They chose not to do. Instead they used this opportunity to provide tax breaks to those who need them least. It's a shame and disgrace," he admonished. Lewis vows a fight to improve the bill as it is considered before the committee.

AT&T African-Escops offer advice to graduates

After graduation parties have ended graduates must turn their attention to two things: jobs and success. The transition from student to full-time worker brings many questions and some confusion. To this end, the New Pittsburgh Courier shared the advice of some of AT&T's top African executives who outlined their keys to success in eight major areas. Beyond Education: Cramming for tests, working on group projects and writing reports can translate into resume building skills such as the ability to write, work under pressure and to contribute to teaming building. Find What You Love: To find your niche talk to a broad base of individuals, including recent graduates and people who are in the early, mid and late stages of their careers. Creativity Counts: Tapping your creative abilities opens a lot of weight in the business world. The ability to "think out of the box" is admired and rewarded. Refine your problem solving skills and sharpen your communication skills. Develop Relationships: Networking works! You are always being assessed and you never really know where an opportunity will come from so you cannot afford not to be "on" all the time. Never Stop Learning: You should continually challenge yourself to build upon existing skills and venture into new and related areas. The learning curve has a long way to go. Sports Played a Role: Sports and other social scenarios can help you learn "how people work." It teaches common goals and participating in a group as both a leader and supporter. Balance Work and Personal Life: Make more time for family and friends because as time goes by you will realize how critically important time is. The Right Attitude: Having the right attitude means being there for others. No one is an island and you have to be willing to give of yourself too.

Michigan's first black Bank celebrates golden Anniversary

In 1947, the same year that Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball, some visionary Black leaders in Detroit pooled their resources and resources to establish "first" reported the Michigan Citizen. They opened the first African-American financial institution in Michigan, Home Federal Savings Bank. Created in response to the restricted and segregated social environment of post-World War II America, it met the needs of African Americans who couldn't get home mortgage loans through the mainstream banking establishment. Home Federal Savings Bank grew with Detroit's African-American community.

Today, it's the only federal-chartered savings bank still headquartered in the city of Detroit. And after 50 years, the bank is still looking ahead, said Helen Cole, president of Home Federal Savings. "Our mission is to continue serving the residents of metropolitan Detroit," she said. "As we progress toward the millennium, we have a clear vision and aggressive plans for our future growth and development. We're excited about Detroit's potential in the next century."

Poor on 125-mile march against welfare reform

By Darryle Newton Jenkins

NEW BRUNSWICK—It is a march that began June 21 at the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia. It was to end at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. When they get there they will deliver stories and testimonies from persons along the way who say their human rights have been violated by welfare reform.

About twenty men, women and children, all members of the Kensington Welfare Rights Union are on this march to protest recent welfare reform laws which they contend violate the human rights of all Americans, and in particular the UN Human Rights Charter. Last Tuesday they arrived at the Memorial House Housing Project to campout for the evening in meet supporters.

"What the elected officials have

done has been shown in the results of the implementation of this law, and those results have been very dangerous," said marcher Willie Baptist, 49, an unemployed, formerly homeless man who says the stories they have been hearing have included those of house fires and even suicides because of the increased stress due to the reform laws.

"What I think if the problem is going to be solved, it (has) to be solved by those of us who are having to endure the consequences of these policies that are affecting our families, our babies, our future, and our lives."

The marchers say that they have seen nothing but protest in the four days since they started their 125-mile trek. They have passed out literature along the way explaining to spectators the reason for their march.

Some of the marchers were showing signs of fatigue by the time they made it to New Brunswick, particularly organizer Cheri Honkala who was walking with a cane and could hardly move by Tuesday evening, but all are determined to make the entire march.

Once at the campsite, they met with their local supporters and The New Jersey Freedom Organization provided them with a sound system to speak to the assembled group, many of them residents of the nearby projects. Behind the microphone was a coffin which they used to collect the testimonies of persons along the way. They added a few more here.

Among the supporters was Madejly Hoffman of the Green Party, who was Ralph Nader's running mate in his presidential campaign last year and now is on the ballot for governor against Christie

Whitman and Jim McGreevey. She noted that the marchers were a multi-racial group, and many of them surprisingly were white, putting in perspective the fact that everyone, no matter what race, sex, or class, should be concerned. "Look at how many people in middle management have lost their jobs in the last two years...all of the large corporations downsizing," she said.

"Almost no one can say that they have job security. It's very wrong to say to the victims of the downsizing and the victims of the problem in the economy that all you have to do is pull yourself by your bootstraps. It keeps people divided." She cited the real problem as being corporate welfare and wants to address that situation as Governor.

For more information about this march and additional projects, call (215)763-4584.

Jackie Joyner-Kersey Joins President in Title IX Celebration

WASHINGTON—Legendary athlete Jackie Joyner-Kersey joined President Clinton, the first lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton and other distinguished guests at the White House on June 17 in a celebration of the 25th anniversary of Title IX, the federal law banning discrimination on the basis of gender in education.

The event was marked to highlight the effects of the law in all areas of education, including sports. In 25 years, opportunities for women in sports have expanded tremendously and attitudes towards women in sports have also changed. In honor of the anniversary women athletes from different sports were asked for their thoughts on Title IX, high school and college sports and diversity among women in sports. And the responses were encouraging. Michele Smith, a softball player explained: "To me, Title



(L-R) Richard W. Riley, Secretary of Education Anne Jefferson, High school student and winner of the Pinnacle Award at the INTEL Science and Engineering Fair Meba Chavez, Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Jackie Joyner-Kersey Sally K. Ride, former astronaut, currently professor of physics, University of California, San Diego Verletta P. Allen, YWCA/HCCE Coordinator, Non traditional employment for women program Robin Foster, Baltimore, County Firefighters Association. Photo by Les Anderson.

IX means opportunity; opportunity for women in all areas, not just

sports. The passing of Title IX promised that there is, and will be, a

future for women and that we can have faith in that promise."

Down to Business

By John William Templeton

If your Kente cloth wrap or shirt has a made in China label, then you need to have focused on the recent Group of Seven meeting in Denver.

The Group of Seven includes the U.S., Canada, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy and Japan. When Russia is the topic, it is invited.

In June, the topic was Africa. Just like the meeting in Berlin in 1883, that resulted in the scramble for Africa, no African leaders were invited.

This was a gross oversight, particularly on the part of President Clinton, who has decided to set the agenda on Africa. At the beginning of June, the Organization of African Unity's more than 50 heads of state met. It would have been appropriate for the Group of Seven to find out about the current concerns and perspectives of Africa, rather than employ the well-known attitudes that gave us 30 years of Mobutu Sese Seko.

In Congress, there is a graphic example of why such an approach is necessary. A new trade bill for Africa, co-sponsored by Jim McDermott, (D-WA); Phil Crane, (R-W) and Charles Rangel, (D-NY), says free trade is a prerequisite for American support. However, it does not lower textile quotas on goods from Africa.

After the bill's introduction, the African ambassadors' corps swung into action and pointed out the fallacy of preventing African imports from coming into the United States, while calling for lifting of tariffs on American exports to Africa. However, the legislation, was only changed to extend the deadline for the lifting of African tariffs. There is still no lifting of American textile limits.

Had the G-7 meeting included OAU Secretary-General Salim Salim and the leaders of the regional economic groups like Nelson Mandela, head of the Southern African Development Community, a realistic picture of Africa's prospects could have been shared.

Meanwhile, a new high-tech scramble for Africa is going on in the financial centers of Wall Street, Chicago and Europe. Armed with satellites, ultrasound and computer

simulations, more than 2,000 companies have descended on the continent to pick up mineral and oil rights in the past two years. Even more valuable are the parasitoid privatization's like the auction of South Africa's Sun Air and Telkom in recent weeks. Everything from television channels to railroads are on the block.

There is a different model from the Marshall Plan that rebuilt Europe, MacArthur's revival of Japan and the Seven Tigers. The U.S. is even now boosting the economy of Vietnam. In those cases, infrastructure aid was given, not loaned and protected industries were given entry into the U.S. market. This, even though many of these countries fought wars against the United States and its World War allies. China, which has overwhelmed the U.S. textile market still has nuclear missiles pointed at its customer.

There is no justification for retaining textile quotas on Africa. The bulk of the exported goods are indigenous designs and fabrics which cannot be accurately replicated elsewhere.

For African-American communities, real free trade with Africa means jobs in retailing, distribution, marketing and administration. Textiles are just the tip of the iceberg of trade barriers that put Africa and Africans overseas in a constant Catch-22 situation. Everything from satellite allocations to air landing rights must be reexamined.

Most Americans do not realize that it is West African crude oil and natural gas that keeps most of the Northeast warm in winter and cool in summer or that the same energy makes California able to see through its smog.

Until Africa gets treated as an equitable trade partner, it is unlikely that African Americans will either.

If President Clinton persists in playing the role of Bismarck, rest assured that the concerns of Africa will be heard. Denver Mayor Wellington Webb hosted a Town Meeting on Africa as part of a series of 10 meetings by the Consistency for Africa on June 20. Earlier meetings featuring African ambassadors have featured more than 300 attendees.

We must do more than meet. The gross domestic income of

U.S.'s 30 million African Americans is \$450 billion, three times the entire income of sub-Saharan Africa and its 500 million people.

Crises like the new Democratic Republic of the Congo present an

opportunity to solve long-term infrastructure needs and provide professional expertise. Meeting the demand for telephone service on the African continent would cut the African-American unemployment rate in half.

ADVERTISEMENT

NOTICE TO POTENTIAL VICTIMS OF DISCRIMINATION AT PLEASANT VIEW GARDENS APARTMENTS, PISCATAWAY, NEW JERSEY



On June 18, 1997, the United States District Court for the district of New Jersey entered a Consent Order resolving a lawsuit brought by the United States Department of Justice against the owners, managers and rental agents of Pleasant View Gardens apartments. The lawsuit alleged that the defendants had discriminated against black persons who sought rental housing at Pleasant View Gardens. Under the Consent Order, you may be entitled to receive monetary relief if you asked about or applied for renting, or rented an apartment at Pleasant View Gardens (partially pictured above), and apartment complex located on Carlton Avenue, Pleasant View Drive and Rutgers Road, near Rutgers University and Johnson Park, in Piscataway, Middlesex County, New Jersey at any time after January 1, 1991, and:

1. You were denied an opportunity to live there because of your race or color or the race or color of someone who would be living with you; or
2. You were falsely told that no apartments were available because of your race or color or the race or color of someone who would be living with you; or
3. You were not informed of advertised rent specials, such as the first five months' rent at half price, or advertised move-in specials, such as a three hundred dollar (\$300) discount on the cost of to move in, because of your race or color or the race or color of someone who would be living with you; or
4. You were otherwise discriminated against on the basis of race or color in connection with your occupancy at Pleasant View Gardens apartments or your attempt to rent a unit there.

If you believe you have been discriminated against because of race or color at Pleasant View Gardens apartments, or if you have any information about persons who may have been discriminated against there on the basis of race or color, please contact the United States Department of Justice, at 1-800-896-7743.

You may also write to:
**United States Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division Housing and Civil Enforcement Section
P.O. Box 6598
Washington, D.C. 20035-5998**

Note: You must call or write no later than sixty (60) days after August 20th, 1997.

Neither the defendants' agreement to the terms of this Consent Order nor any other action taken by the defendants in connection with this settlement constitutes an admission by the defendants of any violation of the law, duty or obligation, or that any decision or action with respect to the management of Pleasant View or any other apartment complex was discriminatory or otherwise unlawful. The defendants specifically disclaim and liability to the United States or any other entity or person. The parties have entered into this Consent Order to compromise disputed claims. No findings of any kind have been made or issued by the Court on the merits of the claims in this action.

Council of Negro Women, Inc. recognizes quiet heroes

WASHINGTON—Teachers are often the most significant influences in a child's life. They recognize untapped potential and help shape dreams. That's why for eight years, the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. (NCNW) has presented Excellence Teaching Awards. Sponsored by the Shell Oil Company, the award is a tribute to NCNW founder, Mary McLeod Bethune, and rewards public school teachers who continue her legacy by instilling a thirst for knowledge in African American children.

In the next few weeks, NCNW will announce this year's winners—seven outstanding teachers who have made significant contributions to the education of African-American children. Nominees are recommended by NCNW sections and members, parents, students, administrators and community members. Candidates must teach grades K-12 in an urban or rural school with a thirty percent enrollment of African-American students; inspire a high level of achievement among those students; represent excellence in the teaching profession through outstanding contributions to their field and distinguish themselves among their colleagues and peers.

A special panel, comprised of members of the NCNW Commission on Education, selects one national and six regional winners each year. In addition to being honored at national and regional celebrations, awardees receive a specially designed sculpture from Tiffany & Co., a certificate and a cash prize. Each winner's school is also presented with a commemorative plaque.

"This award is important because in addition to honoring the standard of excellence set by EITA winners," says NCNW president and CEO Dr. Dorothy.

EDITORIAL

Have a happy and safe Fourth of July

This week is our country 221st birthday, and what a long strange trip it's been. We hope however you take enough caution during the holiday so you will be able to continue that trip with us a little while longer.

If you are consuming alcohol, do so responsibly. Remember not to drive intoxicated.

Be aware of children and ensure their safety. With the kind of traffic this weekend generates we will have to be especially alert with them.

If you are going out to the beach or your neighborhood swimming pool, obey all the rules and regulations. This just doesn't ensure your safety, but your friends and loved ones as well.

Unless you are properly certified to handle fireworks, stay away. They are illegal, dangerous, and have brought otherwise fun-filled outings to tragic conclusions.

In short, have a good time this weekend, but make it better by exercising common sense. That way we can do this all over again when we turn 222.

Letters to the Editor

Rice doesn't win in Newark

Dear Editor:

I'd like to call your attention to a recent article published in *City News*, Thursday May 12, entitled "Rice Wins in Newark." According to the official election results on file in both the Essex County and Newark Municipal Clerks' offices, Senator Ronald Rice lost in Newark, getting 5251 votes compared to the 5357 garnered by political newcomer Laurence Brown.

Also, if you are relying on polls to confirm or support your story, it is standard procedure and your journalistic responsibility to disclose the particular reporting agency that performed the polling. No individual or agency has ever affirmed that any poll was conducted in Newark regarding next year's mayoralty candidate.

In light of the fact that *City News* is a well respected and highly informative publication, I hope that you will consider being more responsible in your reporting in the future and will print a retraction to the article.

Jean Sims

Open letter to the Governor

Dear Governor Whitman:

Bill A-1947/15-1506 will likely come before you soon for your signature or veto. This anti-tenant bill amends the Tenant Tax Rebate Act in such a way as to insult and assault every tenant in the State of New Jersey.

1. It takes away a tenant's right to receive a rebate when taxes on the Property are reduced.

2. It takes away the recognition that the tenant is the real taxpayer, while the landlord is merely the middleman who collects the rent and pays the taxes using the tenants' money.

3. It harms municipalities by encouraging landlords to file tax appeals and erode the tax base.

4. It is a lie. It pretends to merely amend the Property Tax Rebate Act while actually destroying it.

I pay property taxes through my rent, and so do all other tenants. We all deserve tax rebates when the taxes on our buildings or complexes go down. You, as Governor, have professed to care about the citizens of this State. I am asking you to care about what is fair and just for tenants. Please Veto A-1947/15-1506 should it come before you.

Brian Hanlon, Newark

McGrevey Better for kids

Dear Editor:

I know from first hand experience just how important it is to improve the NJ Division of Youth and Family Services. I had a two-year-old granddaughter and I knew she was in danger, but DYFS refused to remove her from her home. So she continued to be abused and eventually was beaten to death.

That's why I'm having trouble understanding Governor Whitman's recent proposal to improve the agency.

Governor Whitman never answered my telephone calls and letters after my granddaughter Amara was killed. But she always seemed to have time to go to press conferences and have her picture taken.

Now, all of a sudden, the election is five months away and she has decided to try to do something about the problems with DYFS.

The other candidate, State Senator James E. McGreevey has been working to reform DYFS for several years. He was one of only three State Legislators who answered when I sent a letter to all 120 members of the Legislature calling for DYFS reform after Amara died.

Senator McGreevey has traveled with me all over the State of New Jersey to talk about the need to improve DYFS. We have visited 53 churches and collected thousands of signatures to support his plan to reform DYFS.

If Senator McGreevey's bill had been enacted shortly after he introduced it, my little granddaughter would still be alive today. Instead, the bill is stuck in a Senate committee.

When I read Governor Whitman's proposal, I was surprised because it would do many of the same things as Senator McGreevey's bill. Does the Governor think we can't see through what she is doing?

Governor Whitman is out of touch with the working, middle class families of our state. Senator McGreevey understands what the middle class needs.

I'm proud to have Jim McGreevey as a friend and supporter. We're working together to make something good come out of the tragedy which claimed Amara's life.

Cleveland Ross

Bill Clinton can't heal the racial divide

By Dr. Lenora Fulani

Several weeks ago President Clinton kicked off his campaign to heal the racial divide in America. Bill Clinton is one of those politicians who has built his career off of reinforcing that racial divide. But like any politician who bases his principles on the polls, the focus groups and the political winds, what he did yesterday has no bearing on what he does today. Everything is for political gain. Little is for the good of the country. And nothing is for the good of African Americans.

In his speech at the University of California in San Diego he told the country that we have the opportunity to overcome the racial polarization that still plagues America and create a "truly multi-racial democracy." President Clinton says we need to have a constructive national conversation on race.

I agree that we need to work to create a "truly multi-racial democracy." But in order to have the meaningful conversation that President Clinton is calling for then we must first change the situation that we, as Black people, find ourselves in, are going to have to get said.

Some of those things are going to have to be about the issue of political power. Because the long-standing inequities between Black and white America — in education, opportunity and the quality of education — in job opportunity and the quality of jobs — persist because

the current political arrangement has kept us marginalized as a political force. This problem must be addressed, if we as a country and Black people as a community, are going to overcome. And no amount of commissions, or conversations, or apologies for slavery are going to make a difference unless we do that.

How do we do that? Slavery may have been abolished and "apologies" may be forthcoming, but most of America's key political institutions were created during slavery — notably the Democrats and the Republicans and still bear the slavery mentality. Until we create a new political party that includes African Americans as full partners in its inception, conception

and design, we will remain without the political power we need. Moreover, it's building this new party-together with other Americans — that will heal the racial divide.

Lenora B. Fulani twice ran for President of the U.S. as an Independent, making history in 1988 when she became the first woman and African-American to get on the ballot in all fifty states. Dr. Fulani is currently a leading activist in the Reform Party and chairs the Committee for a Unified Independent Party. She can be reached at (800)288-3201 or at www.Fulani.org.

Slavery, Clinton and apologies

By Dr. Conrad W. Worrill

The question must be raised as to why the President of the United States, William Clinton, decided to speak on the question of race relations in America at the University of California in San Diego.

President Clinton also announced the appointment of a special panel to examine race relations in America that will be headed up by noted historian Dr. John Hope Franklin. Further, Clinton announced he will also have a series of town hall meetings throughout the country to discuss this issue.

In this same connection, President Clinton responded to proposed legislation "introduced by a dozen white members of Congress who argued that a formal statement of regret (national apology to African Americans whose ancestors were sold into slavery) would help bind the wounds that still sting 154 years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation freeing the slaves in the Confederate South."

Clinton was quoted as saying on CNN's Late Edition that "An apology under the right circumstances, those things can be quite important." Clinton also said "Surely every American knows that slavery was wrong, and that we paid a terrible price for it and that we had to keep repeating that. And just to say that it's wrong and that we're sorry about it is not a bad thing. That doesn't weaken us."

In response to these complaints and petitions, Mr. Maurice Gie'le-Ahanahzo, UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, conducted an official mission to the United States on October 9-12, 1994 "to meet with representatives of the U.S. government and individuals in the political, economic and social fields who were in a position to provide him with information relating to various aspects of his mandate."

Mr. Gie'le-Ahanahzo (who is from Benin in Africa) report stated his belief that "racism and racial discrimination persist in American society, even if not as a result of a deliberate policy on the part of the United States Government."

Also, he found that "sociological inertia, structural obstacles and individual resistance hindering the emergence of an integrated society based on the equal dignity of the members of the American nation and willing to accept ethnic and cultural pluralism. Vested interests, competing influences and the power struggle between the various political and social components of American society also provide opportunities for residual racism and racial discrimination to linger on."

This report was read widely throughout the world by government leaders, scholars and activists. The U.S. Government criticized the report.

On March 4, 1997 Ren Yanshi

of China wrote a stinging critique of the United States human rights record. Mr. Yanshi said "The United States State Department released its Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1996 on January 30, 1997, once again disregarding and attacking at length the state of human rights in China and more than 190 other countries and regions."

Mr. Yanshi revealed "The U.S. Government, posing as the human rights judge of the world, turned a blind eye yet again to the serious human rights problems in its own country and did not utter a single word about them in the report. In fact it is the United States itself, the self declared human rights authority that has a very poor human rights record in the history of this world."

The third additional and final example of international pressure placed on the United States concerning the condition of Black people was the October 16, 1995 Million Man March led by Minister Louis Farrakhan. The impact of this march around the world yet to be determined. But it was clear that it was the most powerful demonstration in the history of this country.

If the government apologizes for their involvement in slavery they should not stop there. They should apologize for their participation in the African Holocaust, committing genocide against us and as a result they should be prepared to begin the process of negotiating our reparations. This is the real issue!

An apology for slavery? Contrition carries conditions

By Congressman Jesse Jackson, Jr.

I am not opposed to a congressional apology for slavery, but the contrition carries conditions. A government apology for slavery is a valid collective symbolic act, but it is appropriate only if it is accompanied by substance that repairs the damage that is the basis for the apology.

I do not question the intentions of those who are sponsoring this legislation, because I believe their intentions are good and their concern is genuine. But just a simple apology, without anything attached to it, seems a little hollow to me.

My Bible tells me, "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." It does not say, "Where your heart is, there will your treasure be also." Jesus had an objective measurement for the 'human spirit'. Therefore, it would be inconsistent for the Congress to say that America's heart is with an apology, but we cannot do anything about the unjust legacy of slavery, segregation and discrimination because our treasure is consumed with balancing the budget, not in responsibly reinvesting in America's future.

Obviously, it is appropriate for the federal government to apologize for slavery, since the federal government was intimately involved in establishing and perpetuating slavery.

It passed laws (e.g., the Fugitive Slave Law and the Missouri Compromise of 1850) which furthered slavery. There were also Supreme Court decisions that bolstered slavery and established segregation, e.g., Dred Scott, 1857, and Plessy v. Ferguson, 1896.

But I am a little perplexed over all of these apologies-apologies for syphilis, apologies for slavery — because they always seem to come when the country says it is broke (we are not), that we must be fiscally austere, that we must balance the budget or reduce the budget deficit. In other words, contrition without content.

Roman Catholic theology explains that you cannot just apologize to God and be admitted into the Kingdom of Heaven. You must first go to purgatory and pay a kind of reparation for your sins before you can enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Webster's Dictionary explains it this way, "Purgatory is a place or state of punishment wherein, according to Roman Catholic doctrine, the souls of those who die in God's grace may make satisfaction for past sins and so become fit for heaven."

It is not politically possible for the country to apologize just for slavery and grant reparations to African Americans exclusively. So I have a different recommendation. We should provide a full employment economy with jobs for ALL Americans, create a health care system that provides comprehensive and universal health care for ALL Americans, create a mixed economy that provides affordable housing for ALL Americans, invest in a public school system that provides a quality and multicultural education for ALL Americans, not just something for African Americans.

In such a climate of ECONOMIC SECURITY, the American people will be better able to hear a message of racial reconciliation, and

will be more amenable to understanding the need for and be more open to supporting affirmative action, majority/minority congressional districts, immigration, economic set-asides and the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

I too have a dream that we can make such economic progress if we organize and create the political will. I have a dream that if we make America economically more secure for EVERYONE, we can make tremendous progress on the race question. I have a dream that we can move from racial battlegrounds to economic common ground and to moral higher ground. Yes, I too have a dream for America that makes America better.

CITY NEWS

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BUSINESS CALENDAR

TUESDAY, JULY 8

BROOKLYN—The Brooklyn Economic Development Corporation presents "Establishing a commercial credit relationship" as a part of their summer workshop for the small business. For more information call 718-522-4600.

PRINCETON—The NJ Department of Labor's Summer Seminar on Wage Record/ UI Taxes & Unemployment benefit processes will be held at the Princeton Marriott Hotel. For more information call 609-520-1200.

FRIDAY, JULY 11

NEWARK—The NJ Department of Labor's employer seminar will present Wage record/ UI-DI Taxes & Unemployment benefit processes at the Sheraton Newark Hotel. For more information call 201-690-5500.

MONDAY, JULY 14

SOMERSET—The NJ Department of Labor's employer seminar will present Wage record/ UI-DI Taxes & Unemployment benefit processes at the Sheraton Somerset Hotel. For more information call 908-539-7300.

THURSDAY, JULY 17

BRIDGEWATER—Somerset County Chamber of Commerce presents a Small Business Council Breakfast. For more information call 908-725-1552.

FRIDAY, JULY 18

EDDYSTONE, PA—General Meeting of the Delaware Valley Minority Business Resource Council. Sponsored by Boeing. For more information, call 215-893-9977.

TUESDAY, JULY 22

BROOKLYN—The Brooklyn Economic Development Corporation presents "Affordable marketing techniques for the small business owner" as a part of its summer workshop for the small business. For more information call 718-522-4600.

FRIDAY, JULY 25

SOMERVILLE—Small Office Home Office presents a routine discussion, "How to Grow your business." For more information call 908-725-1555.

MONDAY, AUGUST 18

LAS VEGAS—CAL-PAC State Association 21st annual convention "Connecting Our Resources for Business & Community." The convention will focus on how today's economy impacts the way business takes place. For more information call 818-995-6545.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

BLUE BELL, PA—General Meeting of the Delaware Valley Minority Business Resource Council. Sponsored by METNAUS Healthcare. For more information, call 215-853-9977.

Fax all business events to
City News
908-753-1036

Flastar wins NAACP Award

SPARTANBURG, S.C.—Flastar Companies, Inc., which operates six restaurant chains, including Denny's, received the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) 1997 Fair Share Corporate Award for its efforts in minority business development. Other Fair Share award categories include minority business initiatives, supplier diversity, workforce diversity and social responsibility.

The award was presented to Flastar during the NAACP's Tenth Annual Corporate Awards

Luncheon in June in New York.

Flastar is a participant in the NAACP's Fair Share economic development program, which was created in 1981 to ensure that minority entrepreneurs get their fair share of the billions of dollars private corporations spend on contracting goods and services each year. Growth of black entrepreneurship, in turn, increases employment opportunities, capital for community development and strong role models.

The Fair Share Award was designed to recognize outstanding

corporations that participate in the program. An internal NAACP panel, which reviewed the goals and performances of the 64 participating companies, chose those that best exemplify the spirit of progress and equality.

Flastar initiated a comprehensive Fair Share agreement with the NAACP in 1993 to provide African Americans and other minorities with greater employment and business opportunities. Twenty-five percent of Denny's franchise restaurants are owned by minorities. African-American ownership of Denny's

restaurants grew from one in 1993 to 31 in 1997.

Other achievements include: * Minority purchasing contracts exceed \$100 million, a ten-fold increase from 1993, with over half of this business directed to African-American companies;

* African Americans now account for 16 percent of Flastar's management staff and 22 percent of its employees;

* Nearly one-third of Flastar's board and 25% of the company's senior management committee is comprised of minorities and women.

Are reparations for Blacks deserved?

By William Reed

"An apology my foot." is what many African Americans say in response to suggestions that the nation, in the person of President Bill Clinton, apologize for slavery. "Show us the money," is what these African Americans say Clinton, and the Congress, should do in the way of apologizing to blacks for 300 years of slavery and our 100 years of post-slavery discrimination.

After President Clinton formed a Blue Ribbon panel, led by black historian John Hope Franklin, he started what is to be a year-long discussion on race relations with his own speech at the University of San Diego. After Clinton's speech, defending diversity and seeking better race relations in America, 12 members of the House of Representatives sponsored a resolution to apologize to blacks for slavery. The resolution to apologize for

slavery and 100 years of discrimination after slavery. Based on the fact that each of the four million newly freed slaves in 1865 would have received forty acres and a mule if not for the shenanigans of white folks of that period, statisticians say each living African American is entitled to \$180,000 from our government. For many African Americans, an apology separates from a check is just another batch of hot air similar to much we've heard and been burned by before.

Black unemployment is typically twice that of whites, black incarcerations are ten times that of whites, black education and schools are funded and staffed less than white schools, and statistics regarding economic parity between blacks and whites show a decline from a high of 75 cents for blacks to each dollar earned by whites in the 1980s down to 70 cents in the 1990s.

Reparations are the money, land, scholarships, and other goods owed black people in the U.S. for

Affirmative Action and Minority Set-Aside programs, established in the 1970s to redress past discrimination have been supplied by whites, and we are being told all things are now equal. In spite of incidents at Texas, Avila, the State Department, etc., they are telling us now that "discrimination must be proven."

Groups such as the National Coalition for Reparations in America (NCOBRA) (202) 635-6272 and the Provisional Government of the Republic of New Afrika (202) 484-1976 have been pushing the reparations envelope for three decades and are much more experienced on the subject than the black poverty pimps who currently go in and out of the Congress and White House in the name of African Americans. Congressman Conyers should be reached at (202) 225-5126 to push this legislation instead of an apology.

Encourage entrepreneurship among African-American owned businesses; and for alliances with other organizations which advocate the interests of small businesses. Business owners interested in joining MCBBBA are urged to call (609) 883-2424.

"I am truly elated that we have finally reached this accomplishment and I truly thank God," said Rev. Terrell regarding the expected issuance of the charter for the credit union. "But I am also reminded about the words of the anti-slavery activist Frederick Douglass, who said, 'If there is no struggle, there is no progress.'"

"The credit union is only a start. We still have a long way in rebuilding the economic strength of this community but we are sincerely grateful for this beginning."

New officers elected to Business Association

The Mercer County Black Business Association (MCBBBA) held elections for new officer at its June meeting.

Trenton business owner Gregory Williams was elected President. When asked about his plans for MCBBBA for the next two years, Mr. Williams replied, "My primary objective is to build a strong network of viable African-American owned businesses in Mercer County through a series of initiatives that identify new sources of capital and more effective ways of securing government and corporate contracts for our members."

Mr. Williams went on to state, "As the owner and President of GW

Enterprises, Inc., a data processing and tele-notification consulting firm located in Trenton, I have come to appreciate the importance of belonging to an organization like MCBBBA which can be an effective advocate for the small business owner. My plans for MCBBBA call for forging alliances with other small business organizations throughout the State so that the small business owner's voice can be heard even more clearly as economic decisions are made in City Hall, the Statehouse and the White House."

MCBBBA's other new Officers are Marvin Ross, Vice President, Louise Hall, Secretary, and

Atherine Price, Treasurer.

The Mercer County Black Business Association is a 200-plus member organization formed for the purpose of joining African-American owned businesses together to ensure inclusion in the awarding of government contracts;

encourage entrepreneurship among African-American owned businesses; and for alliances with other organizations which advocate the interests of small businesses. Business owners interested in joining MCBBBA are urged to call (609) 883-2424.

Business training goes virtual

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the University of Wisconsin announced recently that they are now providing high quality, low-cost business classes over the Internet using state-of-the-art software from Lotus Development Corporation.

The joint venture between the world's largest business federation and one of America's most presti-

gious universities is called Mastering Your Small Business. It contains a five-part curriculum of small business essentials including Marketing; Finance; Total Quality Management; Business and the Legal System; and Human Resources are developed by nationally recognized experts in their fields.

The program utilizes Lotus

Learning Suite software - a newly designed Lotus Notes application that permits students to communicate directly with professors over the Internet to receive mentoring in real life business applications.

A preview of the program is currently available on the web site at: www.uschamber.org/programs/sbi. To request registration and price information, call 1-800-888-2571.

Essence and AT&T explore cyberspace opportunities

The increasing market opportunities available to today's African-American entrepreneur were explored during an ESSENCE magazine and AT&T luncheon presentation entitled "Finding Your Place in Cyberspace: Creating Your Own Web Site" held at the Crowne Plaza Manhattan. Pictured surfing AT&T's World Wide Web site is Patricia Thomas, Director of Business Planning and Strategy for AT&T, surrounded left to right by C. Charles Dunlap, District Sales Manager, Emerging Technology, AT&T; Roger Tucker, President of Tucker Hillard Marketing Communications; Clarence O. Smith, President of Essence Communications, Inc.; Jaka Oliver, CEO and publisher of Afro American Newspapers; and luncheon host Bill McCreary, vice-president of Fox television, New York, and senior correspondent for Good Day New York Sunday.

IBM monitors growth of minority, women-owned businesses

A new study sponsored by IBM and conducted by the National Foundation for Women Business Owners (NFWBO) shows that businesses owned by women of color are growing three times faster than the overall rate of business growth in the U.S.

"This information on the growth of minority women-owned businesses is of incredible value to IBM and others who serve the women-owned business market," said Micki Napp, market executive, Women-Owned Businesses, IBM North America.

"For the first time, IBM now has detailed, up-to-date information

about businesses owned by Asian, Black and Hispanic women," Napp continued. "IBM has an interest in knowing more about minority women-owned businesses so that as a corporation we can adequately serve this market."

For almost a decade, IBM - the world's largest provider of information technology and solutions - has taken a lead role in supporting NFWBO research in an effort to bring new visibility to the economic force of women-owned businesses. An IBM-sponsored technology survey - conducted by NFWBO in 1996 - projected that women business owners would invest \$44.5 bil-

lion in computer and related purchases in 1996. The NFWBO survey also demonstrated to IBM that women entrepreneurs differ from men entrepreneurs in how they make their purchasing decisions.

"IBM recognizes women-owned businesses as a unique market segment that is growing faster than the economy in general," noted Napp. The nearly eight million women-owned enterprises in the U.S. are increasing at a rate of about 1.400 each day. Furthermore, one in eight of these businesses is owned by a woman of color.

Small Business Directory

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*4. 3-Day Washington, DC Tour	August 22, 1997	\$180.00	\$275.00	\$149.00
*5. 2-Day African-American Heritage Tour of Washington, D.C.	September 6, 1997	\$125.00	\$150.00	\$115.00
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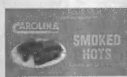


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Local Briefs

Township announces summer program

After a successful summer program last year, highlighted by the opening of the pool at Orange Park and the initiation of a tennis program, the Township of Irvington is pleased to announce its 1997 Summer Activities Program. The free program will run from July 7 through August 22, 1997 each weekday from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at six of Irvington's ten parks and playgrounds. Registration is required and participation is determined on a first-come, first-served basis.

Research consortium formed by NJ state colleges and universities

A research consortium, designed to foster collaborations, utilization and dissemination of the research conducted within the nine public New Jersey state colleges and universities, has been formed by a core group of college and university representatives.

The consortium, which will hold a state-wide research conference at Kean College on March 27, 1998, will be a vehicle for maximizing research resources and outcomes from its membership, Samarel reported.

Passaic seniors receive \$62,000 in scholarships

Fifty-one grateful Passaic High School seniors received a total of \$62,000 in scholarships from the William Limmer Foundation last week. Certificates were presented to student recipients by Reverend Ulrich Keenies, trustee and pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Passaic. Andrew Davis a representative of First Fidelity Bank, and Walter Hunziker, an attorney in Paterson, are also trustees for the foundation, and Ms. Fran Adams is the foundation liaison.

Frontiers International, Inc. convention

The 56th Annual Convention of Frontiers International, Inc. will be held from July 14-19, 1997 at the Newark Airport Marriott Hotel. The Newark Frontiers Club will host the event. On Thursday, July 17, 1997 the Newark Club will present a gospel night program at 7:00 p.m. at the Mount Calvary Baptist Church, 235-51 Seymour Avenue, Newark, New Jersey. The Rev. J.W. Mapson, Sr. pastor of the church for 50 years will be honored by Frontiers International, Inc. at the affair. For ticket information call Valley Fair Music, (201) 371-5000.

Mayor announces fireworks show for the fourth of July

Elizabeth—Mayor Chris Bollwage announced that the City of Elizabeth will be holding a fireworks show on July 4th at the Veterans Waterfront Memorial Park. The show, scheduled to begin at sundown, will be coordinated by Garden State Fireworks, Inc. a firm which has received several national and international awards for excellence since its inception 107 years ago. "We're pleased to bring the service back to the people. We were able to do this through a public-private partnership that is enabling us to save money," stated Bollwage. Melly Melt Productions Inc. is the promoter of the event.

Along with the pyrotechnics display Melly Melt Productions will also be holding a three-day children's fair at the Waterfront park. To be held on July 4, 6-10 p.m., July 5, 2-10 p.m. and July 6, 2-9 p.m. For further information please contact Melly Melt Productions, Inc. at (908) 527-0687.

Program seeks work-site sponsors for 250 students

NEWARK—Students at Newark's Central High School are working diligently to satisfy strict qualifying requirements to be part of the School's Summer Internship & Academic Enrichment Program. In response to their strong desire for summer employment and workplace experience, a public/private partnership called the Renaissance Project is seeking corporations, educational institutions, nonprofit organizations and other potential summer internship providers to become work-site sponsors for these motivated Central students.

The six-week program, which will run from July 7 through August 15, is designed to provide students with three hours of intensive training in reading, writing, mathematics and computer science each morning, coupled with career exposure through paid internships each afternoon. New to the program this year



Nicodeme Joseph, first union member of the 30-hour Work Matters Curriculum focusing on personal

resources, human relations on the job and workplace skills, which is designed to prepare students for their transition into the workplace.

"We are pleased to be a participant in this worthwhile program which has successfully benefited the youth of Newark. Within the last three years, those students who have been placed in our firm were hired as permanent part-timers and are now either attending college or will be attending in the fall," said Steven M. Gross, Esq., Managing Partner of Sills, Cummins, Zuckerman, Radin, Tischman, Epstein & Associates, P.A., of Newark. "These students have been a great asset to our firm. Needless to say, The Renaissance Program will continue to receive our support," Gross added.

Support for the program also includes in-kind contributions such as computers provided by Application Consulting Group and

American Express. The program has also received grants from The Newark Group and Share Our Strength (SOS) that provided 28 internships in not-for-profit and public sector settings in 1996.

Central High School is located in Newark's Central Ward, a community of economic contradictions, where commerce and higher education thrive within a few blocks of overwhelming poverty and illiteracy. The student population of Central High School includes some of Newark's most disadvantaged young people, who live and learn in an environment characterized by extreme poverty, violent crime, high unemployment and drug trafficking.

New work-site sponsors for 1997 include the U.S. Attorney's Office in Newark, and Tiffany's at the Short Hills Mall.

For more information call Michelle Butler at (201) 404-3006.

Town forum addresses voter apathy and community action after Newark riots

NEWARK—This July, the 30th anniversary of the Newark riots, WBGO (88.3 FM) Newark Public Radio will host a Town Forum examining circumstances that led to that fateful event, its impact on the community and paths towards community empowerment.

Using the Ballot to Fight Apathy: Where Is Community Action 30 Years After the Newark Riots is Friday, July 11, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Rutgers University/Newark Campus in the Paul Robeson Center. The public is encouraged to attend and participate.

On the panel are Amiri Baraka, Fredericka Bay, Walter Fields and their Joshua Baraka, legendary poet/producer/activist and Newark native, is currently director of the African Studies program at the State University of New York/Stony Brook. Bay, a commu-

nity activist, serves on several community and grassroots organizations including The Anti-Lynching Campaign, The Peoples Organization for Progress and The Women in Support of the Million Man March. Fields is a political consultant and public affairs commentator with MSNBC and the WBGO Journal (aired Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.). Joshua, currently a student at Drexel University, is a graduate of Newark Science High School. The Forum is hosted and moderated by Gavin Sutton, WBGO news and public affairs director.

The four panelists bring various generational, socio-economic and political perspectives to the issues at hand. In addition, audience members may actively participate with questions and comments.

Some of the forum's discussion topics address voter issues, grass

roots activism, community service and turning neighborhood energy into positive outcomes.

"Despite the civil rights gains of the last 30 years, less than 20 percent of eligible citizens turned out to vote in the 1996 general election. The WBGO Town Forum is an opportunity to bring together different elements of the community," said Sutton. "Our goal is to shed light on what caused the riots; but more importantly, to look at the future of Newark and identify steps to ensure a more positive and active role for its citizens."

Funding for Using the Ballot to Fight Apathy: Where Is Community Action 30 Years After the Newark Riots is provided by National Public Radio's Initiative on Audience Development in association with the Ford Foundation. WBGO is a member of only 10 stations across the coun-



Amiri Baraka

try to receive this highly competitive grant. WBGO also gives special thanks to Rutgers University and the New Community Corporation. WBGO 88.3 FM serves the metropolitan area with mainstream jazz, blues and public affairs programming. Licensed to Newark Public Radio, the award-winning, noncommercial station was founded in 1970. WBGO is supported by over 12,000 members and serves about over 350,000 listeners each week.

Senate passes Cohen/Green measure clarifying student strip searches

TRENTON—The Senate approved legislation that Assembly Deputy Minority Leader Neil M. Cohen and Assemblyman Gerald Green sponsored to specifically prohibit teachers and other school personnel from conducting strip searches or body-cavity searches of students.

Cohen (D-Union) is the author of the landmark 1991 law which limited strip and body-cavity searches by law enforcement. The law was in response to a series of highly publicized cases in which women drivers were strip searched for minor motor vehicle offenses. Green (D-Union) represents the legislative district that includes the City of Plainfield, where a mass strip search occurred in a third-grade class in April 1995.

"Strip searches are supposed to be for criminals, not children," said Cohen. "The notion of large-scale, random strip searches of children sounds is inappropriate. It has no place in a 20th Century classroom."

The Cohen/Green measure (A-1167) would clarify the procedures a school official should employ when he or she has reasonable grounds to believe that a pupil has committed a criminal offense. It also would require teachers and



other school personnel to call a law enforcement agency if there are reasonable grounds to believe that a student may have committed an act that would constitute a criminal offense if committed by an adult. Teachers and school personnel would also have to notify the student's parent or guardian.

Staff members, principals and other education personnel would be prohibited from conducting a strip search or body-cavity search of a student under any circumstances. "The 1995 episode in Plainfield may have been isolated, but it cries out for legislation that clears up the legal ambiguities regarding student strip searches," said Green.

"When parents send their children off to school, they expect educators to obey the law — not to break the law," Cohen said. "Strip searches are for hardened criminals and drug suspects, not school children."

The measure was approved by the Assembly in June 1996. It now heads to Governor Whitman for his approval.

AAA donates pedestrian signs to local communities



Officer Edward Philson, of the Newark Police Department, holds up one of two pedestrian safety signs recently donated by the New Jersey Automobile Club Foundation for Safety and Education, based in Florham Park. The AAA Foundation donated the signs to all communities in Morris, Union and Essex Counties to reduce pedestrian accidents, which account for 24 percent of traffic fatalities in New Jersey.

Local official urges support for N.J. school boards association

TRENTON—Boulah Womack, a member of the Plainfield Board of Education, and president of the New Jersey School Boards Association, joined colleagues from throughout the state on June 9 to urge state legislators to preserve the Association's current membership status.

Pending legislation would rewrite an 83-year-old law making membership in the Association a requirement for local boards of education. The move, said Womack and others, would weaken the organization whose services are needed by local boards and their members. NJSBA trains school board mem-

bers, lobbies on behalf of school districts and their students, and provides a wide range of services to the state's local boards of education.

School board members, who serve without compensation, are the largest group of elected and appointed public officials in the state. Unified membership gives all boards, regardless of size, a way to afford specialized training, information and consulting services, according to Womack.

"Without the New Jersey School Boards Association, there would be no organization to speak objectively for all school boards and all children," Womack said.

Carbide Grant establishes MASTERS program

PLAINFIELD—Union Carbide Corporation awarded a \$55,000 grant to Evergreen School that will allow 15 elementary school students to concentrate their studies in math, science and technology. The 15 students will then conduct classes and discussions for their fellow students in fourth through the sixth grades.

"Students will explore various scientific topics through research-based studies and hands-on activities," said Claudia Montford, a fifth grade teacher who applied for the grant. The MASTERS Program (Mathematics and Science-Technology Enrichment Resource Specialists) will promote peer tutoring and peer-modeling she said.

Fifteen students, as student trainees, will participate in a concentrated program in math, science and technology in which they will research and experiment with scientific data in specific areas. They will be assisted by volunteer scientists, adults and students.

In the second phase, these students will lead discussions and present informational reports to all 4th through 6th grade students.

"The intention of the program is to give a group of students mastery in math, science and technology who will serve as models and tutors to other students to accelerate learning in these subjects at Evergreen," said Gloria Williams, principal of Evergreen School.

Toricelli encourages residents to police neighborhoods

U.S. Senator Robert G. Toricelli announced recently that he has introduced legislation which would encourage residents to take control of their own neighborhoods by providing a tax credit in return for participation in a neighborhood watch program.

Toricelli's legislation, appropriately designated S. 911, would promote participation in Neighborhood Watch and other locally run crime-fighting programs by awarding members a \$50 tax credit. These programs have proven extremely effective in reducing crime and restoring confidence in the safety of our local communities.

"The more we have neighbors looking out for one another, and people working together to keep their communities safe, the more crimes we can prevent," said Toricelli.

While the success of neighborhood watch programs are hard to measure, some estimates suggest that crime in neighborhoods with organized watch programs may be reduced by as much as 15 to 45%. Over 170 communities in New Jersey have some sort of organized neighborhood watch program.

One common problem with neighborhood watch programs is that enthusiasm often dies down once crime is noticeably reduced. Toricelli's legislation, which would require continued participation in a neighborhood watch program, is designed to encourage a sustainable program rather than one which responds to a crime wave and then disappears.

"By giving people a small incentive to become involved and remain involved in neighborhood watch programs, this legislation will encourage neighbors to work together to keep their community safe," said Toricelli.

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NASP installs first African American president

BETHESDA, MD—On July 1, Deborah Crockett of Atlanta began a one-year term as President of the National Assoc. of School Psychologists. On that same date Alex Thomas of Oxford, OH becomes President-elect and Rhonda Broadwater of Charlotte,

NC becomes Secretary.

Crockett is the first African-American to be elected NASP president since the association was founded in 1969. She is a full-time school psychologist with Atlanta Public Schools, and has been very active in the association. She has served as a Regional Director and Chair of the Strategic Planning and Multi-Cultural Affairs Committees. She has also served on several association Task Forces and co-chaired selected committees.

"One of my goals for the upcoming year will be the development of a Tolerance Curriculum that helps schools, families, and communities gain the skills necessary for



encouraging respect and tolerance of all people," says Crockett. "School psychologists are a major source of support for students and families. We provide valuable services for helping students become well adjusted and competent learners."

Keep the Beat Going: Be a Blood Buddy

The Blood Center of New Jersey is urging local residents to donate blood over the summer months to prevent serious shortages. Using the theme, "Keep the Beat Going: Be a Blood Buddy," blood center officials hope to have regular donors bring new donors to blood drives and blood donation sites throughout the summer.

"While most people consider summer to be a time of vacations, sun and fun, there are hundreds of patients whose lives will depend on those willing to take the time to donate a pint of blood," said Judy Daniels, BCNJ spokesperson.

"The current pool of regular active donors has been dropping and not enough new first time donors are coming in," Daniels continued. "So, to encourage more people to donate for the first time and current donors to donate more frequently, we are offering a special promotion this summer."

"Between now and September 7, every donor who has given at a specific site (donor center, corporate or community blood drive, etc.) within the last year is asked to bring someone who has not donated at that site," Daniels said. "This can be someone who may have given at another site or may never have given at all. Both donors will receive a unique, one-of-a-kind tee shirt."

Donors must be 18 years of age. Seventeen year olds may donate with parental permission. There is no upper age limit for donors provided they have donated within the last 2 years, or have a doctor's note. Donors should know their social security number and bring a signed form of identification.

People with cold or flu symptoms should wait until they are feeling better before donating, and there is a 72 hour deferral for dental work, including routine teeth cleaning. For those who have travelled outside of the United States recently, call the blood center for eligibility criteria.

For more information or to sign up for a blood drive, call the blood center at 1-800 BLOOD NJ (256-6365).

Commissioner hires state epidemiologist

TRENTON—Dr. Herman M. Ellis, a physician with a wide range of medical experience in business, teaching and the military has been appointed state epidemiologist, Commissioner Len Fishman announced today.

Dr. Ellis became executive vice-president and chief medical officer of Workers Comp Management, Chalfont, Pa. in 1996. Prior to that, he held various positions at Rohm and Haas Company, Bristol, Pa., including corporate medical director in charge of directing medical operations and policy development.

He has been a lecturer in the Division of Environmental Sciences at Columbia University School of Public Health since 1987 and also a member of the residency advisory committee on occupational medicine.

"I am very pleased that Dr. Ellis will be joining us. His knowledge

and experience in public health and the private sector will be an invaluable asset to this department," Fishman said. As the state epidemiologist/assistant commissioner, Dr.



Ellis will be in charge of the Division of Communicable Disease.

Dr. Ellis served in the U.S. Navy as Chief of Epidemiology, Atlantic Fleet, in Norfolk, Virginia from 1979-1982. He received his medical degree from Boston University in 1978, a Masters in Public Health from the University of Michigan in 1975 and a Bachelor of Science degree from Manhattan College in 1971. He served his internship at Harlem Hospital, New York, 1978-1979, and his residency in Occupational Medicine at the University of Michigan, 1983-1984. He has supervised drug testing of athletes with the United States Olympic Committee since 1992 and has been chairman of the "Take Stock in Education Program," a program that teaches students about investing, since 1993.

Dr. Ellis lives with his wife, Deborah and daughters, Kamillah, Amirah and Makeda in Yardley, Pa.

Irvington General Hospital needs employers for job fair

IRVINGTON—Irvington General Hospital's Auxiliary, in conjunction with the Family Development Program of the New Jersey Department of Welfare, is sponsoring a job fair for the hospital's volunteers. The event will be held July 21, from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm at Irvington General Hospital at 832 Chancellor Avenue in Irvington.

The Family Development Program is a job readiness program

for welfare recipients funded by the Irvington General Hospital Auxiliary. Twenty-five people who volunteer at Irvington General Hospital are finishing the program, which is held at the hospital and is facilitated by Carol Sullivan, formerly of Essex County College.

Director of Volunteer Services at Irvington General Hospital Shawn Miller said, "All the people attending the class have been working as volunteers at Irvington

General Hospital. They are professional, reliable and employable." Some participants in the program have associates degrees.

Recruiters from the Saint Barnabas Health Care System, UPS, a variety of managed care companies, and others will be on hand to conduct on-site, brief interviews. Additional recruiters are needed. For more information please contact Shawn Miller at (973) 399-6111.

Survey finds that one-third of Nation's men skip annual health check up

NEW YORK/ATLANTA—While a majority of the nation's men are taking time to visit their health professionals for annual check-ups, a sizable number, nearly 32 million, are avoiding visits to a doctor's office until the last minute.

The survey, conducted for Men's Health magazine and CNN, was released in conjunction with the third annual National Men's Health Week (June 9 - 15), and finds that sixty-four percent of the nation's men went to the doctor during the past twelve months for an annual check-up. However, nearly a quarter of the men surveyed have not been for a regular health check in more than two years, and one in ten men have not gone in more than five years.

Fortunately, a large majority of the nation's men find themselves to be feeling healthy, with nearly two-thirds rating their health (62%) as either excellent (23%) or very good (39%). In fact, the proportion of men who say they're in excellent health increased seven percentage points compared to a similar survey conducted two years ago.

"The good news is that men are feeling better about themselves and their health," says Mike Laffore, executive editor for Men's Health magazine. "The bad news is that too many of them are waiting until something serious happens to have themselves checked for potential health risks."

He notes, "For these guys, they're basically hoping that by avoiding the doctor they can avoid finding out bad news. Unfortunately, it's like not listening to the traffic report and hoping you don't get stuck in a rush hour jam."

CNN's Senior Medical Correspondent Dan Rutz agrees, "When it comes to health, knowledge is power. Research shows that the lifestyle choices men make help set their destinies. Therefore, men should take a more active role in protecting their greatest asset—their health."

The survey does reveal that men

are aware of the health risks facing them but still find reasons for not going to the doctor. According to the findings, cost is the biggest factor keeping men from the doctor with 44% of those surveyed strongly or mostly agreeing. Other factors from a list of reasons include lack of time (30%), only sick people go to the doctor (25%), lack of trust in doctors (24%), and a belief that if something's wrong with them, the doctor won't be able to cure them anyway (14%).

Interestingly, significantly higher percentages of African American men than white men agree or strongly agree that cost (56% vs. 23%) and lack of trust (34% vs. 23%) are reasons for avoiding the doctor. In fact, among those African American men who had not been to the doctor in the past twelve months, nearly three quarters (71%) agree or strongly agree that cost is the key factor keeping them away.

However, when asked the reason that they personally avoided having a regular health check in the past twelve months, men cite both time (32%) and cost (23%) as the key factors.

"Men need to find a way to get health checks into their schedules," says Laffore. He suggests that if time is really a factor, then they should seek to be the doctor's first appointment of the day. "This way you know they'll be on time, and it will be harder to cancel for you and the physician."

What health issues are important to men? According to the survey, heart disease is the most important issue facing men, with four out of five guys (82%) stating it to be very or somewhat important. However, only 56% of men fear heart disease, stating they believe it is something they will likely develop in their lives.

Prostate cancer is the second most important health issue facing men, with 80% of men citing it as very or somewhat important. Approximately half of men (49%) believe they will develop prostate

cancer in their lifetime. Interestingly, similar percentages of African American and white men (49% vs. 50%) state that they believe they will develop prostate cancer, despite the fact that African American men have the highest incidence for prostate cancer in the world.

Among the other health problems men find important include hypertension (77%); high cholesterol (73%); testicular cancer (69%); skin cancer (69%); lung cancer (68%); diabetes (66%); AIDS (65%); pneumonia (57%); and hepatitis (56%).

Hypertension and high cholesterol also rank high among the health problems that men believe it is likely they will develop with 55% and 54% respectively stating as such. Few men believe they will develop AIDS (9%) or hepatitis (18%).

African American men in general are much more likely to believe they will develop health problems than white men. The survey finds that only in the areas of heart disease (58% vs. 46%), and skin cancer (44% vs. 25%) are white men more likely to believe they will develop these health problems. In fact, while African American men have the highest incidence of prostate cancer in the world, similar percentages of African American and white men (50% vs. 49%) believe they are at risk for developing the disease.

What steps are men taking to reduce their health risks? According to the survey, more than two-thirds of men check their blood pressure (70%), sixty-eight percent drink alcohol in moderate amounts, sixty-three percent exercise regularly, and more than half (54%) do not smoke cigarettes or use tobacco products. African American men are

less likely to limit alcohol consumption compared to white men (55% vs. 71%).

Fewer men, however, are likely to have annual flu shots (37%); lose weight (36%); have a test for prostate cancer (35%); use a condom during sexual intercourse (31%); or have a test for colon cancer (24%). Yet, African American men are much more likely to use condoms during intercourse (42% vs. 29%) than white men.

Finally, as the nation ages, and baby boom men enter their fifth decade, men are not optimistic about a cure for baldness. About half (49%) of all men think it is even somewhat likely that there will be a cure for baldness in their lifetime. Few men (30%) think men should seek a cure for their baldness.

"When it comes to baldness, beauty really is in the eye of the beholder," says Laffore.

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RELIGION
CALENDAR

FRIDAY, JULY 11

IRVINGTON—The Irvington Clergy Association of New Jersey will host a "Faith-based Community Economic Development Training Symposium" at the Second Reformed Church, 135 Elmwood Avenue. For information, call the National Black United Fund Office at 201-648-8550.

FRIDAY, JULY 14

OCEAN GROVE—Soldiers of the Cross will be presented at 7:30 p.m. at the Second Reformed Church, 135 Elmwood Avenue. For information, call the National Black United Fund Office at 201-648-8550.

SATURDAY, JULY 26

OCEAN GROVE—Newark's Bethany Baptist Church youth choir will perform at 8 p.m. at the Second Reformed Church, 135 Elmwood Avenue. For information, call 908-775-0035.

The story of a
Black Civil War
RegimentBy Richard Loran
Associated Press writer

BOSTON (AP)—Bob Berry is back in uniform. Decades after serving his country in Korea and Vietnam, he traded his Navy blue for the Union blue of the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry.

An African American and a Boston resident, Berry is one of hundreds of re-enactors who camped along the Charles River Memorial Day weekend to honor the 54th, the most famous black regiment in the Civil War.

The unit's gallantry, depicted in the movie *Glory*, silenced critics who said blacks couldn't fight; 178,000 blacks eventually served in the war. Ceremonies on May 31 that marked the 100th anniversary of the unveiling of a monument on Boston Common to the 54th and its first commander, Robert Gould Shaw, who was white.

Those at the ceremony included retired Gen. Colin Powell, who shared a stage with Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates Jr., Tuskegee University President Benjamin F. Payton and Gov. William F. Weld.

The regiment, made up mostly of free Northern blacks and white officers, was famous in its day. But its exploits largely faded into public obscurity until the 1989 Hollywood movie. That's when Berry, a former Navy machinist's mate, first heard about it.

"I didn't learn about any of this in school. It makes you feel cheated out of your history," he said, as he stood by the bronze monument in his heavy woolen uniform, complete with .58-caliber Enfield rifle. Berry and his fellow volunteers, who spend thousands of dollars to outfit themselves and travel to Civil War re-enactments, visit schools to keep the unit's story alive.

Janice Brathwaite was "taught about the 54th in class, either."

It wasn't until her grandmother was featured in a newspaper article 25 years ago that Brathwaite learned that her great-grand-uncle, Capt. James Henry Gooding, of New Bedford, fought and died with the unit.

"A lot of textbooks still don't carry the full story, and a lot of the teachers and administrators, they were never taught this stuff," said Brathwaite, who now works for BankBoston, one of the ceremony's sponsors.

Gooding chronicled the unit in a long series of letters to his hometown newspaper, the New Bedford Mercury, before he was wounded and captured at the battle of Olustee, Fla., in February 1864. He died a few months later at the infamous Andersonville, Ga., prison camp.

Gooding also wrote a letter to President Lincoln petitioning the commander-in-chief for a raise that would give black troops the same pay as whites.

Although Congress granted black soldiers equal pay shortly before the 54th marched into battle at Olustee, the news didn't reach the men until after the fight, so Gooding may have died without knowing.

But his lesson in courage isn't lost on his descendant, Janice Brathwaite.

Strengthening the bond between parent and child

Youth Talk: Overcoming the generation gap

by Rev. Martin D. Odom

This week I begin a four part series of articles on creating strong healthy relationships between parents and children. The purpose is to help stimulate dialogue in our families and communities that will enable us to overcome the divide which exists in far too many of our homes today.

A great starting place for this discussion is the Bible, the word of God. In the Bible in the Book of Second Samuel there is a story about a father and his son and how they did not overcome their generation gap. The father is David, and his son was named Absalom. David had several children by a number of different women. Among those children were another son Amnon, and a daughter, Tamar. Absalom and

If you want to overcome the generation gap between you and your children don't let your personal regrets about your own life, prevent you from being the parent that they need you to be.

Tamar shared the same mother, Amnon's mother was someone else. One day Amnon did a terrible thing to his step sister Tamar, he raped her. When Absalom found out what his stepbrother had done to their sister he was extremely angry, because even back then rape was a horrible crime.

But David did not punish Amnon, so Absalom took vengeance against his brother and then he ran away. He went to live with his grandparents on his mother's side. Absalom stayed away from David for many years because he thought that David was angry with him.

David was angry but he missed Absalom and wanted him to return.

Finally Absalom returned but he was not allowed to see his father for a few more years. He had to live in isolation not able to speak with his dad. A few more years passed and finally he was able to speak with David again but by now anger and resentment towards his father had built up in Absalom's heart, so for many years when people would come to see his father, Absalom would catch them before they got to David and speak against his father. Eventually Absalom decided that he would David out of the way and he gathered some men and he and his men caused David to flee the city. But David was older and wiser, and a fight ensued between David and his men and Absalom and his supporters and the tragic ending to this story finds an anxious David crying in despair at the alarming news that

against his wishes, his men had caused Absalom his son to meet an untimely end.

How did it get so far gone? How did the relationship between David and Absalom deteriorate to such a drastic conclusion? Many of us may find ourselves today asking that same question about our own relationships with our parents, or our relationships with our children.

How has such a great divide developed between us that we can no longer hear each other, or understand each other. Most importantly, how do we overcome our own generation gap? This Biblical story is instructive in this regard. It provides some clues to what we can do to begin the process of reconciliation.

First, when you look at this story you realize that one thing which David probably neglected to instill was a sense of discipline in Absalom.

It is possible that David felt guilty about the life he had lived. As great as David was he was not perfect. He had made some mistakes in life especially as it related to women and children. And because of this guilt that his life was not a good example David was probably not a good disciplinarian in the home.

He may have felt like he had to overcompensate for his own shortcomings by not being too strict on Absalom. And this is the same predicament that so many parents find themselves in today. This feeling of guilt about not having lived a perfect life causes many of us to try to overcompensate by not setting too many boundaries for our children. But parents if we as a community are ever going to overcome the generation gap then we have got to have discipline, we have got to set some boundaries.

We cannot afford to let our children grow up believing that anything goes. In fact when we do that we are only widening the gap because we are in fact not creating strong, productive, and healthy people who are actually making mistakes.

So when they become old enough and strong enough like Absalom to go to war with their parents it can be at least partially traced to the lack of boundaries being set in their formative years. If you want to overcome the generation gap between you and your children don't let your personal regrets about your own life prevent you from being the parent that they need you to be.

Then there was also a problem of communication between David and Absalom. Absalom ran away because he thought David would be angry with him. David let him stay away for a few years. Absalom had a great deal of resentment towards David for his mishandling of the situation between Amnon and Tamar. David never really gave Absalom an opportunity to express how he felt, nor did he express how he felt to Absalom.

Much of their situation could have been avoided if they had only

spoken to one another. This is also true today. So much of the gap which exists between parents and children today is not because of what we say to each other, but what we don't say. Those unspoken feelings and emotions and doubts and questions which gnaw at the human spirit until an explosion occurs are the source of much of our problem. Good honest, sincere discussion, without repercussions or judgment would carry us far in overcoming our generation gaps.

Finally this story reminds us of our spiritual obligation to our children. David was a man of God. David despite his faults knew the Lord. The Bible says he was a man after God's own heart. That would have been enough for David the man, but it was not enough for David the parent.

David had a responsibility to instill his faith and his trust in the Lord into his children. David had an

obligation to at least raise his children in an environment in which they would be nurtured in God. If David would have raised faithful, then when the incident occurred with Tamar, he would have been able to fall back on the scripture that says vengeance is mine and I shall repay says the Lord. He would not have felt the need to take justice in his own hands and become a vigilante. He would have had a different understanding of the event and of the justice of God.

If David had raised Absalom to know the Lord then he would have known the scripture which reminds us to honor our father and mother so that we may live long lives. He didn't, and his life like so many of our young brothers and sisters today was tragically short.

David had a responsibility to pass on his faith to his son. Today we share that same responsibility. We have the responsibility to make

sure that our children are nurtured in Christian homes and in church. Leaving them at the church doorstep and picking them up in two hours is not enough. They need to be in church and see mommy singing in the choir and daddy serving on the usher board. They need to be taught what it means to have faith to believe in God and to know Jesus as Savior and Lord of their life.

Michael Jordan: A model
of personal leadership

By Michael A. Grant, J.D.

Michael Jordan is a high-profile example of what is possible when an individual decides to lead himself or herself.

The fact that he was able to master that Herculean effort while being besieged by the Utah Jazz and by a punishing stomach virus, speaks powerfully about the degree of leadership that he routinely exercises not only of the Chicago Bulls but infinitely more important — over himself.

Jordan may appear to be a god of many of his worshipping fans and supporters, but he is as human as the rest of us; and arguably, more vulnerable than most.

What makes Jordan an enigma goes far beyond the fact that he is possibly this planet's greatest basketball player.

What makes him an incredible role model — not just for youth but for all of us — is that he has painstakingly developed the skills to lead himself.

It is now common knowledge that he was not good enough to make the team in his sophomore year in high school. How he dealt with the disappointment of being rejected in the team gives us an early glimpse of what learning to lead oneself looks like in the embryonic stages.

Rule number one in personal leadership development is: When life knocks you down, get busy on a plan to get up. Getting up, however, is difficult if you do not

I am speaking about good character, that steel wall inside us that is formed by an endless array of personal choices that we make during the course of our lives.

give yourself a compelling reason to get up.

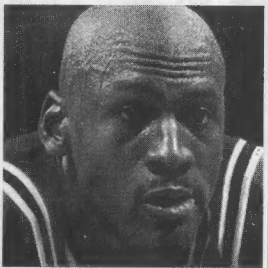
That reason must come from your very core. Reasons to stand against overwhelming odds come from who we are deep inside.

I am speaking about good character, that steel wall inside us that is formed by an endless array of personal choices that we make during the course of our lives.

Next, to further develop leadership over oneself, it is imperative that each of us cease looking to others to do for self what self is capable of doing.

The third trait of those who exercise commanding leadership over themselves is that they insist on setting their personal standards higher and higher.

They know (to paraphrase one great thinker) that true success lies not merely in defeating the competition;



Michael Jordan overcame being cut from his high school basketball team.

true success lies always in outdoing one's former self.

In order to constantly set higher and higher goals and to surpass each preceding goal, one must exercise daily discipline over oneself. No one can afford to lose in this ongoing battle with self.

To explain further, each of us has a higher nature and a lower nature.

The potential of our higher nature (self) will be activated in direct proportion to our controlling the excesses of our pleasure-seeking, mindless lower nature (self).

Like Michael Jordan, all the greats that we admire had their daily struggles with the opposing forces of the lower self. Giving minimum effort, seeking the path of least resistance, and heeding a gravitational pull back to the comfort zone.

And, finally, those who exercise visionary leadership over themselves stay focused on where they are headed.

Leading a team that suffered injuries, suspensions, and a few embarrassing losses, Jordan, entering the finals, led himself with the powerful affirmation: "We can win with what we have."

The Chicago Bulls' victory in Chicago on that Friday night was not merely about a team that won four more games than the Utah Jazz did. What Michael Jordan taught us during the finals — and throughout the years leading to a fifth NBA title for his team — was this: Great leaders can inspire you. But no leader will develop your potential for you. If you "Want to be like Mike," you must become bullish about leading yourself!

Sister Burns gets well wishes as she takes president position



MORRISTOWN—College of Saint Elizabeth alumnae Petrena Young, '96, left, and Bea Nelson, '34, present outgoing President Sister Jacqueline Burns with a collection of messages and photos from alumnae and other friends at a farewell tribute dinner June 5 at the Parsippany Hilton. More than 300 persons attended the event organized by the Morristown college's Board of Trustees and Dinner Committee.



Photos By Kathy Cacicedo

Honoring College of Saint Elizabeth President Sister Jacqueline Burns, right, is greeted by her successor, Sister Francis Rafferty, who took over as the Morristown college's sixth president on July 1, at a farewell tribute dinner for Sister Jacqueline June 5 in Parsippany. Among Sister Jacqueline's well-wishers were Charlene Hunter Gault, PBS reporter, who sent a taped message of congratulations.

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Classified/Legals

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ASBURY PARK

NOTICE FOR CONSULTANT

The Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park is inviting consultants from persons interested in providing professional consulting services as a Comprehensive Grant Program Administrator/Modernization Coordinator. This is one position and the scope of services includes:

Comprehensive Grant Program Administrator

1. Direct preparation of Comprehensive Grant Program application.
2. Administer all phases of Comprehensive Grant Program including preparing necessary budget revisions.
3. Prepare all reports and the correspondence relating to the Comprehensive Grant Program for the contract officer.
4. Will be responsible for administering and preparing Public Housing Management Assessment Program (PHMAP).

Will also administer existing Modernization projects

1. Administers all phases of the existing CIAP budgeted program necessary budget revisions.
2. Lead in the selection of professional A & E firms and make recommendation to the Contract Officer/Executive Director.
3. Monitors budgetary and time constraints involved in the implementation of major maintenance programs.
4. Coordinates with the maintenance supervisory staff.
5. Supervises Clerk of the Works (the Consultant will serve directly under the supervision of the Contract Officer and/or Executive Director).
6. Liaison with HUD, residents, and government agencies for modernization projects.

Interested firms or individuals should phone the Executive Director's Office at (732) 774-3880 extension 913 to request a bid packet and respond to the RFP by 3 p.m. on July 18, 1997, to Claudia A. Sweeney, Executive Director, Asbury Park Housing Authority, 1000 1/2 Third Ave., Asbury Park, New Jersey 07712. \$132.60

LEGAL NOTICE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN OF MORRISTOWN

The Housing Authority of the Town of Morristown is sealed bids for the procurement of the following types of insurance coverage:

Property Insurance Policy - Projects 1, 2 & 3

Property Insurance Policy - Projects 4, 5 & 6
Commercial Automobile Policy
Commercial General Liability and Umbrella Policies
Bond Policy
Directors & Officers Liability Policy

The term for all policies is October 1, 1997 to October 1, 1998. The policies are to be as one package.

The bid opening date is September 9, 1997 at 11:00 a.m., prevailing time, at the Administrative Offices of the Morristown Housing Authority, 31 Early St., Morristown, NJ.

A copy of the bid specifications can be obtained at the aforementioned offices. DOCUMENTS WILL NOT BE MAILED.

DAVID GARNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MORRISTOWN HOUSING AUTHORITY

\$79.30

PUBLIC NOTICE

RFP NO. 97-1192-1

NJ 2-50

REQUEST FOR TURNKEY PROPOSAL FOR 88 TOWNHOUSE UNITS

The Housing Authority of the City of Newark is accepting Proposals for newly constructed housing units under the Public Housing Program to be located in the City of Newark, New Jersey, and known as Project NJ39-P002-050.

Turnkey Proposals must be submitted for Townhouse units.

The following is the number of units for each size by bedroom count:

NJ 2-50	NO. OF BEDROOMS	NO. OF UNITS
1 Bedroom	22	
2 Bedroom	62	
3 Bedroom	4	

Turnkey Proposals must be received by 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday, September 10, 1997 at the address indicated below. Turnkey Proposals received after the deadline will be returned to the Developer without being considered.

A Turnkey Developer's Packet providing detailed project information and submission requirements for this Project may be obtained from the Contracting Division of the Housing Authority of the City of Newark located at 57 Sussex Avenue, Newark, New Jersey, 07103. A \$50.00 non-refundable fee in the form of a certified check or money order will be required for each Proposal Packet.

Developers are advised that the site information, including soil boring results, is for informational purposes only and the final responsibility for soil investigation and related designs rests with the Developer, with no increase in the Proposal price.

purpose and the final responsibility for soil investigation and related designs rests with the Developer, with no increase in the Proposal price.

Proposals shall be accepted only from those Developers who obtained their package by leaving the necessary deposit.

THE PROPOSAL SHALL BE SUBMITTED IN TEN COPIES, PER PROJECT.

Proposals shall in no way be considered as competitive bids and shall be evaluated on its individual merits. The Housing Authority of the City of Newark reserves the right to reject, accept, or request modification of any Proposal submitted in response to this invitation as well as the right to accept or reject any Proposal on the basis of feasibility or suitability of the proposed development.

Except by written consent of the Authority, no Proposal may be withdrawn for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days after the date set out herein for the receipt of such Proposal.

Closing date for submission of Proposals by qualified Developers is Wednesday, September 10, 1997 at 2:00 P.M. All packages must be clearly marked "DEVELOPER PROPOSAL, PROJECT NJ39-P002-050", and returned in ten copies, per project to the Contracting Division, Attention: Mr. Jose Martinez.

Contracting Officer
Housing Authority of the City of Newark
57 Sussex Avenue
Newark, New Jersey 07103

A pre-proposal meeting will be held 10:00 A.M. Wednesday, July 16, 1997 at the Central Office of the Housing Authority of the City of Newark located at the same address.

For further information contact Mr. Joseph S. Bianchi, AIA, Director of Redevelopment, at (201) 430-2276.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

BY: HAROLD LUCAS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PUBLIC NOTICE

RFP NO. 97-1191.1

NJ 2-45

REQUEST FOR TURNKEY PROPOSAL

FOR 100 TOWNHOUSE UNITS

The Housing Authority of the City of Newark is accepting Proposals for newly constructed housing units under the Public Housing Program to be located in the City of Newark, New Jersey, and known as Project NJ39-P002-045.

Turnkey Proposals must be submitted for Townhouse units.

The following is the number of units for each size by bedroom count:

by bedroom count:

NJ 2-45	NO. OF BEDROOMS	NO. OF UNITS
1 Bedroom	26	
2 Bedroom	70	
3 Bedroom	5	

Turnkey Proposals must be received by 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday, September 10, 1997 at the address indicated below. Turnkey Proposals received after the deadline will be returned to the Developer without being considered.

Turnkey Developer's Packet providing detailed project information and submission requirements for this Project may be obtained from the Contracting Division of the Housing Authority of the City of Newark located at 57 Sussex Avenue, Newark, New Jersey, 07103. A \$50.00 non-refundable fee in the form of a certified check or money order will be required for each Proposal Packet.

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Proposals shall be accepted only from those Developers who obtained their package by leaving the necessary deposit.

THE PROPOSAL SHALL BE SUBMITTED IN TEN COPIES, PER PROJECT.

Proposals shall in no way be considered as competitive bids and shall be evaluated on its individual merits. The Housing Authority of the City of Newark reserves the right to reject, accept, or request modification of any Proposal submitted in response to this invitation as well as the right to accept or reject any Proposal on the basis of feasibility or suitability of the proposed development.

Except by written consent of the Authority, no Proposal may be withdrawn for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days after the date set out herein for the receipt of such Proposal.

Closing date for submission of Proposals by qualified Developers is Wednesday,

September 10, 1997 at 2:00 P.M. All packages must be clearly marked "DEVELOPER PROPOSAL, PROJECT NJ39-P002-045", and returned in ten copies, per project, to the Contracting Division, Attention: Mr. Jose Martinez.

Contracting Officer
Housing Authority of the City of Newark
57 Sussex Avenue
Newark, New Jersey 07103

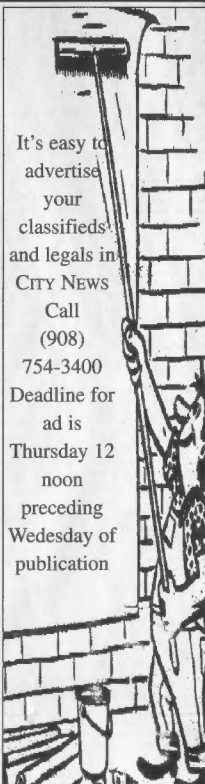
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HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

BY: HAROLD LUCAS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Independent contractor to be responsible for mailing and distribution of City News publications to boxes and newstands 5 days a week. Must also develop distribution in the following areas:

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Health Officer-Township of Clark, Newly created position; under direction, recommends local public health policies; plans, develops, coordinates and directs the work program of a municipal health department or agency and directs the enforcement of public health within the municipality; does related work as required. Must possess a valid Health Officer's License issued by the New Jersey Department of Health as well as a valid New Jersey driver's license. Salary range \$35,000 to \$45,000 depending on qualifications, plus excellent benefits package. To apply: send letter of application and resume to Business Administration, Township of Clark, 430 Westfield Avenue, Clark, New Jersey 07066. Clark Township is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer.

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NJ auto insurance to send Consumers rights Q&A

Banking and Insurance Commissioner Elizabeth Randall announced that all New Jersey insurance companies licensed to sell auto coverage will be required to include a New Jersey Auto Insurance Consumers' Rights Questions-and-Answers form with notices of non-renewal.

The Consumers Rights Q&A, which was produced by the Department of Banking and Insurance is designed to let con-

sumers know their rights under the law, according to Randall.

"Consumers whose policies are not-renewed should know their rights under the law and what to expect when they shop for replacement coverage," said Randall. "New Jersey has some of the strongest consumer protection provisions in the country when it comes to auto insurance. This Consumers Rights Q&A will ensure that policyholders know their

rights."

Randall said the Consumers' Rights Q&A was developed as a way to promote awareness on the part of consumers that they have certain protections.

"We believe that the consumer protections that are contained in the law could be made even stronger by making sure the public is well informed about the rights of auto insurance consumers and where to go if they feel their rights are not

being upheld," said Randall.

The Consumers' Rights Q&A features answers to the most commonly asked questions about what insurance companies may and may not do when dealing with policyholders and potential customers. It covers: rules governing the application process; appointments and time frames.

It also provides helpful tips on applying for auto insurance and various hotline phone numbers of inter-

est to consumers, including the Department's toll free number for complaints.

"We want people to contact us if they have a problem or even if they have a question about their rights. This guide is intended to increase public awareness about the rights of consumers and to make the department more accessible. People who need help shopping for a new coverage," said Randall.

Schundler outlines Jersey City goals



Mayor Bret Schundler

In a press conference last Wednesday, Mayor Bret Schundler thanked the people of Jersey City for re-electing him to his second term as mayor. Schundler beat Jeremiah Healy in a second election held last Tuesday. In doing so, he became the first mayor in Jersey City to be re-elected to consecutive terms in four decades.

"The results of the election," he said, "was a definite vote of confidence in the priorities of this administration. For the last four years we have had one simple goal...to make Jersey City's neighborhoods safe, clean, and affordable so that our homeowners and tenants could have a decent place to raise their families. In the next four years, we are going to stay focused on that same goal." Schundler went on to say he would create economic renewal in the city's business districts, provide tax stability for home owners, and expand recreation and cultural programs for senior citizens and youth.

Forum

continued from page one

Father's Program of the University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey took a look at the Dateline show and the media's portrayal of young fathers in urban areas.

A panel discussion titled *Dialogue Forum: Media Images of Young Urban Fathers* gave media representatives and young Newark parents the opportunity to voice their opinions on the subject.

The forum, held at UMDNJ, was moderated by Dr. Evelyn Plummer of Seton Hall University. Panelists included Len Cannon, host, NBC's Dateline; Linda Coles, New Jersey Network; Charles Dine, UMDNJ Young Father's Program; Diane Kaufman, director, UMDNJ Parents are People Too; Carol Waters, co-director, UMDNJ Parents are People Too Program; The Hon. Mildred Crump, Newark City Council; John Block, senior producer, NBC's Dateline; Kim Childs, WBGO-FM; Barry Carter, The Star-Ledger; Darrell Gordon, a young father; and Sayda Burr, a young mother.

Len Cannon, who hosted the

program, explained that they began their process for doing the show by selecting twelve children who were born at University Hospital. "We went to where the story took us," he said. "We can't do a story if people don't give us access. So the pictures that you saw, the circumstances, the living conditions, etc., were people that allowed us into their homes. The four young men that you ended up seeing in the show is where we had the most access. We chose this topic because it is an epidemic in Black communities."

One young father spoke out about the difficulties some young fathers have in finding employment. "I myself as a father," he said, "I have a 2-year-old son. I see that throughout that clip, and in looking at the circumstances the fathers were in, a lot of them went through a lot of job interviews and not getting a call-back, they get frustrated."

He wondered why Dateline did not go with these men to show why they didn't get the jobs.

"A lot of these young fathers didn't have fathers of their own. They didn't have role models or someone to show them how to be a father. These are things people don't learn in school, said the young father."

Execution

continued from page one

Stanley (D-Sussex) was also among those who opposed the bill, saying the Legislature preferred to "invest in the grim reaper than on children." Assemblyman Leroy Jones (D-Essex) was particularly concerned because of the disproportionately high number of African-Americans and Latinos currently on death row said this bill will do the same to minority children. A point Talarico dismissed by saying minorities are more often the victims of crimes than whites.

The Anti-Lynching Campaign, as well as the Association for Children, were among a number of groups who made the trip to Trenton last Monday. "We refuse to let you mislead, incarcerate, and deny jobs and opportunity, and finally kill our babies via Bill No. 2925," the group expressed in a statement released that day.

Rev. Reginald Jackson, executive director of the Black Ministers Council of NJ, was also present in Trenton and he said that the bill sends a terrible message throughout the state that we would contemplate the execution of children. "Most of

them aren't in their right mind," he said. "Many come from troubled homes and backgrounds." He was however, quick to acknowledge exceptions to the rule, like the two boys in Sussex County.

"If we are going to lower the bar to young people under 18 who have any age at all?" he continued. "Why not simply have the death penalty apply to everybody? Why not 12-, 13-, 14-, or 15-year-olds?"

Other groups represented in Trenton included Women in Support of the Million Man March, The National Black Police Association, Unity & Struggle, Black Nia F.O.R.C.E. and the Peoples Organization for Progress.

According to Richard Diney, director of the Death Penalty Information Center in Washington DC, there are currently 58 persons on death row nationwide who were under 18 at the time of their crimes. Two-thirds of them are persons of color. Since 1976 nine persons who were minors at the time of their crime had been executed, four of them persons of color.

According to Talarico, since this Legislature is over the bill may come up again after the election.

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Smith bill keeps welfare offices open

TRENTON—Legislation sponsored by Assemblyman Tom Smith that would require the state to pay the administrative costs of providing general assistance benefits, regardless of whether those benefits are administered by municipalities was recently released by the Assembly Community Service Committee.

Under current law, Work First New Jersey, municipalities are responsible for administering the general public assistance program and will only be reimbursed by the state for the cash that is doled out to single persons and couples without dependent children.

Smith's bill, A-2937, would direct the state to pay for the administrative costs of providing general assistance benefits, regardless of whether those benefits are administered by the municipality or the county.

"By requiring the state to pay the administrative costs, we can make sure that municipalities keep their welfare office: open and accessible to the public," Smith said.

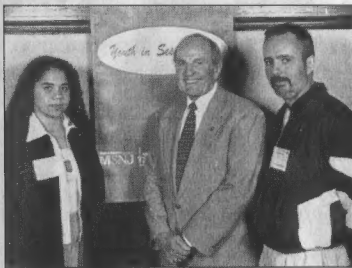
Smith's bill was released by a 7-0 committee vote and now heads to the Assembly Appropriations Committee for consideration.

Assemblyman Tom Smith

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Youth convene in Trenton



from left: Aryanis Feliz from Eastside High School, Assemblyman Nicholas Felice and Chaperone William Johnson, recently participated in "youth in session," a mock-legislative session sponsored by the Medical Society of New Jersey and New Jersey BREATHS. Students voted on tobacco legislation.

TRENTON—Eastside High School student Aryanis Feliz became a legislator for a day on May 14 at the second annual YOUTH IN SESSION, an interactive event developed to heighten youth awareness of the political process.

Feliz was part of the 54 students from around the state who participated to vote on several actual tobacco bills in the New Jersey Legislature.

The event was sponsored by New Jersey BREATHS (a multi-agency tobacco control project convened by the Medical Society of New Jersey) and the Tri-Agency Coalition, consisting of the New Jersey Chapters of the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association and American Lung Association.

Assemblyman Nicholas Felice

acted as Assembly Speaker for the event.

"It was refreshing to see the students have such great ideas and questions, while also suggesting plausible solutions," added Carl Restivo Jr., MD, president, Medical Society of New Jersey and a testimonial speaker at Youth In Session. "Best of all, they spoke frankly about tobacco issues that affect their lives everyday."

Spirited debate led to several bill amendments, such as expansion of ingredient disclosure to include cigars and smokeless tobacco. The students also helped to amend the proposed tobacco tax increase, which would link the state tax to remain at an equitable percentage of the total price of the product. The proposed \$0.25 tax increase would raise over \$125 million in annual state revenue.

Assemblyman Tom Smith

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3/1 ARM 30 Year Term	1-Year ARM
Rate 6.750%	Rate 6.125%
APR 7.750%	APR 7.920%
Maximum Loan \$1,000,000	Maximum Loan \$1,000,000
Monthly Pmt Per \$1,000 \$6.49	Monthly Pmt Per \$1,000 \$6.08
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